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Hamas condemns police chief's 'threats'

DAMASCUS (AP) — The Islamic Resistance Movement Hamas refused Saturday to hand over any of its members to the Palestinian police, despite pledges to track down the killers of two suspected collaborators. Palestinian police chief Nasr Youssef has said he was prepared to lose 100 men to find the Hamas members who last week murdered two Palestinians they accused of collaborating with Israel. Hamas said in a statement here it "condemned the threats made by Nasr Youssef, and his insistence on continuing to provoke our people by protecting traitors and pursuing those who fight against (Israeli) occupation. We will not give up our arms, nor any members of our movement, we warn against any attempts to harm them." Hamas men kidnapped three people on May 25. Two days later two corpses were found hanging from electricity pylons. The third man was freed. After a police warning the fundamentalists agreed to halt the kidnapping "for the time being" to see if the new Palestinian police force could do the job. But they refused to hand over the hanged men.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
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Jordan, Israel start talks on border demarcation tomorrow

King deplores lack of Arab coordination, says Jordan has own interests

HIS MAJESTY King Hussein on Saturday expressed dissatisfaction with the level of coordination among the Arab parties involved in peace negotiations with Israel and said Jordan might have to adopt action in the absence of such coordination.

"It seems that the coordination with the brothers proceed from our side only and is a one-sided process as the parties have not yet crystallised coordination even at the lowest possible and acceptable level," the King said after chairing part of a Cabinet session attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and Royal Court Chief Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker.

The peace process, the King said, "is a serious and continuing process regardless of the recent events in Lebanon, which was exposed to an aggression and which sustained heavy human losses." He said the peace process would continue despite the aggression.

Referring to the Jordanian-

If accords reached on border, water issues, venue could be shifted closer to home — Anani

Trilateral economic group also to meet in Washington

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter with agency dispatches

AMMAN — Jordan and Israel will start informal talks on Monday on their long-standing border dispute after Amman has received indications that the Jewish state is willing to end its stalling over the issue, Information Minister Jawad Al Anani said Saturday.

Dr. Anani, addressing reporters after a session of the Council of Ministers partly chaired by His Majesty King Hussein, said Jordan and Israel would also hold a session of the trilateral economic working group, which includes the United States, on the operations of Jordanian commercial banks in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and development projects in the Jordan Valley. Both meetings would be held in Washington, he said, adding that if agreements were reached on the border issues then Jordan might be willing to move the venue for further talks closer to home.

"You cannot draw the lines from Washington," Dr. Anani said.

Jordan has received indications that Israel is "ready to discuss these border questions" after evading them despite the signing of an agenda in September for negotiations including the topic, he said. "If Israel is serious about wanting to resolve the border issue, there will be no delay for Jordan in securing its rights," he said.

Officials reaffirmed the Kingdom's stand that joint projects with Israel could come only after the Jewish state agrees to satisfactory solutions to the key issues of border demarcation, security and water rights.

Jordan's borders were drawn in 1929 and Dr. Anani said that if the Kingdom and Israel agree at the talks in Washington "a commission of experts will be charged with drawing up borders according to the outlines set by the British mandate."

The Israeli foreign ministry also said that delegations from the two countries were to meet Monday in Washington for talks on the issue.

An Israeli spokesman said that the head of the Israeli delegation in the bilateral talks with Jordan, Eliakim Rubinstein, was due to leave Israel late Saturday for informal talks in Washington.

Israel radio reported the first

(Continued on page 5)



Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor and Their Royal Highnesses Crown Prince Hassan and Princess Sarawath, Royal Court Chief Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker and Royal Family clergymen pray on Saturday at the tomb of Queen Zein Al Sharaf, the Queen Mother (Petra photo)

Queen Mother remembered for her dedicated life

By Rana Hussein
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordan on Saturday marked the elapse of 40 days after the passing of Queen Zein Al Sharaf, the Queen Mother, with a remembrance ceremony attended by Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor and Royal Family members.

The ceremony was held at the Queen Zein Al Sharaf Social Development Complex, which was opened yesterday in memory of the late Queen Mother.

"This is a precious and emotional moment in our lives because it brought together the whole family to remember our mother to whom we turned to when our father passed away," Her Royal Highness Princess Basma said addressing a crowd of 500 people that included close relatives, friends and government officials.

"Our mother was our support in all hours of need and it is our right to cry to commemorate our mother. But you my brother (King Hussein) taught us to be patient and to continue to extend help," Princess Basma added.

The Queen Mother passed away on April 26, 1994 at a hospital in Lausanne, Switzerland.

Princess Basma said her mother's influence and requests of continuous charity work produced the social complex that was opened yesterday.

"I present this project as a present to our mother's soul," Princess Basma said.

Ahmad Al Lawzi, speaker of the Upper House of Parliament, recalled Queen Zein's great contributions to national progress and the advancement of women and social work in Jordan.

"She left a strong mark on the Kingdom because she was an active supporter and pioneer of the women's movement in Jordan and was behind its progress and development with her support for establishing charity and orphanage societies," Mr. Lawzi said.

Dr. Mohammad Adnan Bakhit, who also spoke at Saturday's ceremony, remembered the late Queen Mother as a symbol and model for all Jordanians.

"After she finished her studies, she came back to Jordan to become active in the Arab renaissance, and played a major role in developing and supporting women in this country," Dr. Bakhit said.

Dr. Khaled Karaki, former chief of the Royal Court and advisor to King Hussein paid tribute to the late Queen Mother's support for King Hussein when he had to take full responsibility of the Kingdom at the age of 18.

"Your mother stood beside you and beside the Jordanians supporting you with firm will and determination," Dr. Karaki said.

Earlier in the day, King Hussein, Queen Noor, Their Royal Highnesses Prince Mohammad, Crown Prince Hassan and Princess Basma and the Royal Family visited the tomb of the Queen Mother and prayed for her soul.

The late Queen Mother was born on Aug. 2, 1916. She was married to King Talal Ben Abdullah in 1934 and was the mother of three sons and a daughter; King Hussein and Their Royal Highnesses Prince Mohammad, Prince Hassan and Princess Basma. Then Crown-Prince Talal and Princess Zein were involved in the early development of Jordan

(Continued on page 5)

Clinton's young son's sentence reduced

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bill Clinton's young son, Alexander, had his sentence reduced from 15 years to 10 years for a crime committed in 1989.

Alexander, 13, was charged with the murder of a 12-year-old girl, Mary Reardon, in a park near his home in the Washington suburb of Bethesda. He was found guilty of first-degree murder in 1991.

The judge, Judge Robert M. Hinkle, said he was moved by Alexander's remorse and the fact that he was a young boy.

Alexander's father, President Clinton, said he was proud of his son's decision to accept responsibility for his actions.

Southerners seek more fighters as Sanaa said considering a ceasefire

Combined agency dispatches

OUTNUMBERED southern Yemenis sought new fighters on Saturday to stave off northern attacks on Aden and appealed for foreign doctors to treat wounded civilians in villages near battlefronts.

The authorities in Sanaa were considering taking steps towards a possible ceasefire in the fighting, diplomats said.

The diplomats said President Ali Abdullah Saleh, a northern emir, had been holding intensive contacts with his aides over the past two days on a possible ceasefire in the war, which began on May 4 after four years of north-south union.

Yemeni officials were not immediately available to comment. The diplomats were unable to say when any decision on a ceasefire might be announced.

The official SABA news agency said on Friday that Mr. Saleh was holding "intensive contacts" with Defence Ministry officials "to lay down necessary arrangements to deal with the U.N. Security Council (ceasefire) resolution." The agency did not elaborate.

Sanaa said it was ready to put into effect a resolution passed by the U.N. Security Council on Wednesday, but stopped short of saying whether it would accept a ceasefire or talk to southern leaders it condemns as rebels.

Diplomats said they thought government would try to show willingness to go along with the resolution while at the same time pressing forward on the battlefield, especially around Aden.

Around the city, northern and southern Yemeni forces traded sporadic rocket and artillery fire and southern officials tightened security on approach roads.

"We heard a lot of shelling in the night," a resident said. "Most of it seemed to be going out from the southern side to the northern side."

The rival armies appeared to be regrouping after a week of fierce battles on an arc north, northeast and west of the city.

"The situation is very serious. It's not rosy," said a senior southern source.

Despite constant pressure, southern forces struck back to recapture a village on the main road to Aden, witnesses said on Saturday.

Piles of bodies lay buried under thin layers of earth in Sabir village, 18 kilometres north of the city. Sabir, site of a major water plant serving Aden, is the closest northern town to the front line.

Seeking to offset the numerical superiority of President Ali Abdullah Saleh's northern troops, Colonel Qassem Yahya, minister of state in the breakaway government, sent aides into residential areas to recruit resistance teams from civilians, southern sources said.

The south, whose population of 2.4 million is less than a quarter of the north's, has already called up 40,000 army reservists and handed out weapons to civilians.

Abdul Rahman Ali Jifri, vice-president of the breakaway south, said northern forces were shelling civilians in villages north of Aden.

"We call on all the world to help us with doctors and nurses to treat our wounded. There are scores of them, maybe much more," he told Reuters by telephone.

"Ali Abdullah Saleh is destroying villages where there are no soldiers at all. He is shelling them with artillery, that is a crazy and barbarous act," Mr. Jifri said.

Aden also accuses the north of using foreign troops. Television showed pictures of five men it said were Iraqis captured with northern units in Shabwa province on June 2.

(Continued on page 5)

Arafat demands release of funds

NEW YORK (Agencies) — Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat has said he would not go to Jericho, as expected this month, unless President Bill Clinton and the international community come up with more money for self-rule. The CBS television network said.

Mr. Arafat, asked if he felt the peace process was at an impasse, said, "it seems so."

The PLO leader, interviewed by the "CBS Evening News" in Tunis, also sharply criticised Israel for its air raid on resistance bases in Lebanon on Thursday.

"This will increase the complication because we are looking to achieve peace and not to escalate," he said.

Asked if he saw the raid as military or political action, Mr. Arafat replied, "both."

Mr. Arafat, 64, also told CBS he was suffering from a bad case of the flu and not heart trouble, as some reports said Thursday, and his wife said there was nothing to worry about.

CBS said Mr. Arafat was putting new pressure on Mr. Clinton, the Israelis, Kuwaitis and others to come through with what he said was promised money to rebuild the Jericho and the Gaza Strip self-rule areas.

Asked if would go to Jericho, as expected this month, unless more money is provided, he replied, "No, I am not ready to deceive my people... I am sorry to say that the Israeli occupation had destroyed all the infrastructure: Housing, schools, hospitals, roads, sewage."

International donors have pledged \$2.4 billion in aid over five years, but the new Palestinian administration said earlier this week that it had virtually no funds.

Mr. Arafat also said he was ready to include members of the Hamas group in his government.

He bristled when he was asked if, as someone who had lived by the gun, he had the skills to govern.

"Why didn't they ask (new South African President Nelson) Mandela this question?... This has not been asked to any of the other freedom fighters who have succeeded and become in power. Only the Palestinians."

In Cairo, senior PLO official

(Continued on page 5)

Curfew in Hebron after 41 wounded

HEBRON, occupied West Bank (Agencies) — A curfew was clamped on the West Bank town of Hebron Saturday after 37 Palestinians and four Israeli soldiers were injured in a grenade attack and clashes, the Israeli army said.

Palestinians threw a home-made grenade at an Israeli military roadblock in the centre of Hebron, injuring six Palestinians, an army spokesman said.

Another 31 Palestinians were injured by rubber bullets and real bullets in clashes which erupted with Israeli troops following the blast, while three soldiers and a border guard were slightly injured by stones, the spokesman added.

Observers from the Temporary International Presence in Hebron (TIPH), deployed after the February massacre of more than 30 Palestinian worshippers by a Jewish settler there, said four Palestinians had been injured in the explosion.

The TIPH said a grenade was thrown "from an unidentified vehicle." It added that 16 Palestinians were wounded by bullets and 11 others were taken to hospital after tear-gas was fired into the crowd in clashes soon after the blast.

"These incidents follow a three-day escalation in the town. The TIPH is in constant contact with the two sides (Israeli army and Palestinians) to try to calm the situation, without success up to now," TIPH said in a statement.

Palestinian sources put the number of inhabitants injured by the explosion in the town's old marketplace at eight.

Witness Hani Swaki, 25, told AFP: "I was sitting in the shade in the marketplace when I saw a bomb roll along to the Israeli army position and explode at my feet."

Schoolboy Yasser Daud Al Zarro, 11, said: "I was injured in the leg, shoulder and hand but my cousin Abdul Hafez was injured in the head. There was a Palestinian vehicle there but no Israeli vehicle."

Elsewhere in the West Bank, the army closed off the centre of Ramallah Saturday following clashes between young Palestinians and soldiers.

Palestinian witnesses said an Israeli peace activist who filmed the clash was beaten by

(Continued on page 5)

Clinton: N. Korea sanctions virtually certain

PRINCESS RISBOROUGH, England (Agencies) — U.S. President Bill Clinton said Saturday it was "virtually imperative" that the U.N. Security Council consider sanctions against North Korea, but he said sanctions should not be considered an act of war.

Mr. Clinton, at a brief news conference with British Prime Minister John Major, said he does not want "sabre-rattling" over the North Korean nuclear issue and the communist Koreans still have a chance to allow international nuclear inspections.

"There is still time for North Korea to avoid sanctions, actually taking effect if we can work out something on the inspections," Mr. Clinton said.

He also said that North Korea's actions in denying access to inspectors of its nuclear facilities "have, in my view, made it virtually imperative that the security council consider the question of sanctions."

He noted that the North has said it is committed to making the Korean peninsula non-nuclear.

"We offered inducements and supports to achieve that, and nothing has been forthcoming," he said.

"Clearly, sanctions are not an act of war and should not be seen as such," he said. North Korea has said that would be its view if sanctions are imposed.

(Continued on page 5)

Assad: Israel is escalating tension

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad on Saturday accused Israel of escalating tension in the region following its latest air attack on Lebanon which killed up to 50 people.

Presidential spokesman Joubran Kourieh told Reuters Mr. Assad made the remarks during talks with Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati, who gave the Syrian leader a message from his Iranian counterpart Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani.

He said Mr. Rafsanjani's message dealt with the situation in the region. Mr. Kourieh gave no details but said that Mr. Assad would send a reply.

"Talks during the meeting dealt with the situation in the region and Israel's escalation of tension in the area," Mr. Kourieh said.

Syria's main foreign power broker in Lebanon, and Iran have strongly condemned Israel's attack on Thursday against the Lebanese pro-Iranian Shi'ite Hizbollah (Party of God) militia in what was the deadliest Israeli attack in seven years.

Iranian officials said Mr. Velayati earlier met Hizbollah Secretary-General Hassan Nasrallah in the Syrian capital and discussed with him the situation on Lebanon following the Israeli raid.

They said Mr. Velayati conveyed condolences to the Hizbollah leader over those killed in the attack.

Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa accused Israel of trying to turn the climate of peace which followed the start of the Arab-Israeli peace talks in 1991 into a "climate of war" through its latest attack on Lebanon.

Mr. Sharaa said in a speech at a meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement in Cairo that the Israeli action was aimed at undermining the peace process.

"Israel's repeated aggressions and its engagement in attacking the parties involved in the peace process is a clear evidence of its intentions to kill the available chance for peace," Mr. Sharaa said.

"This aggression is directed against the whole world community especially the co-sponsors of the peace process — the United States and Russia..." he added.

He called on the world community to express solidarity with Lebanon and its people's right to defend themselves with all possible means. "This right is guaranteed by the U.N. Charter and international law."

Syria says the Lebanese people have a right to attack Israel as long as the Jewish state continues to occupy Lebanese territory.

Washington meanwhile stepped in to curb violence in South Lebanon and salvage the floundering peace process after three Hizbollah men were killed in new clashes with Israeli troops and its militia allies.

There were no reports of new missile strikes on northern Israel after two days of such guerrilla attacks in retaliation for Israeli air raid Thursday.

The U.S. State Department on Friday urged Israel, Syria and Lebanon to use their influence to put an end to the fighting between Israel and Hizbollah.

"We've urged them to exercise restraint and to try to use their influence to end the violence," said State Department

(Continued on page 5)

PLO does not favour Israeli joint ventures

TUNIS (R) — Ahmad Qureia, the new "minister" of trade and economy in the Palestinian self-rule government, said on Friday the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) did not support setting up joint ventures with Israelis in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"It is not beneficial at all to set up companies with them (Israelis). This is not on the agenda," Mr. Qureia, also known as Abu Ala, told Palestinian businessmen meeting in Tunis to discuss reconstruction plans for the self-rule areas.

Mr. Qureia, who was the key Palestinian negotiator during 1993 secret peace talks with Israel in Norway, was asked by a businessman to clarify the PLO's position on the issue.

But pressed to say whether the PLO would consider joint ventures with Israelis illegal, he replied: "This is the general policy of the organisation. There is no a text saying whether they (joint-ventures) are banned or authorised."

Mr. Qureia, who negotiated and signed the PLO-Israeli agreement on economy and trade as part of the self-rule accord signed in Cairo on May 4, said Israel had no

choice but to implement the accord by opening the Israeli market to Palestinian produce.

Under the accord, all Palestinian produce except eggs, poultry, tomatoes, cucumbers and potatoes were to enter unrestricted.

But a spokesman for the Israeli agriculture ministry said last week that he would not let in Palestinian farm produce until Israeli farmers were assured of government compensation for any fall in prices.

Mr. Qureia said he did not think Israel would maintain the ban. "I believe they have no choice..." he added.

He told the businessmen that procedures for imports of goods including machinery, and authorisations for construction work, would be the job of the Palestinian authority in the self-rule areas initially.

Their mandate would extend to the whole of the West Bank in about three months, when negotiations on the transfer of power are expected to be completed.

He said the building of a port in the Gaza Strip was a priority but the Palestinians might use Jordanian, Egyptian and Israeli ports in the meantime.

U.S. said positive to Turkish bid for Iraqi pipeline flushing

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States has given a positive response to Turkey's request that it be allowed to flush oil from an Iraqi pipeline and use the oil for its own purposes, a Turkish official said Friday.

Ozdem Sanberk, under-secretary of the Turkish Foreign Ministry, said he would spend two more days next week trying to work out the project with the U.N. Security Council which is enforcing sanctions including an oil embargo against Iraq.

The pipeline, which carried oil from Iraq deposits across Turkey to the Mediterranean, was closed by the embargo. But it contains about eight to nine million barrels of oil.

Turkey has been trying to gain an exemption from the embargo to flush the oil out of the pipeline and refill it twice in what Mr. Sanberk called a "rescue operation" to keep the line in operating condition.

Turks also argue that the move would give them some deserved financial relief from the oil transit revenues lost as a result of the embargo.

"Turkey should not be penalised as a result of the embargo," Mr. Sanberk said. "The embargo is on Iraq, not Turkey."

The United States, while

praising Turkey's cooperation with the Gulf war allies and acknowledging its economic sacrifice, has been resisting releasing oil from the pipeline on the grounds that it would weaken the embargo.

Mr. Sanberk was asked whether he got a positive reaction in two days of talks with U.S. officials on the pipeline request.

"Yes, definitely," he said. U.S. State Department officials, asked about the talks, did not return a phone call.

Mr. Sanberk said complicated problems remain to be worked out with the Security Council including the question of payment for the oil which would be worth about \$300 million on the open market. More than two-thirds of the oil belongs to Iraq, the rest to Turkey.

Mr. Sanberk said that the oil would not be sold on the international market but would be used by Turkey. He said that after the pipeline was flushed and refilled twice it would be closed again.

Mr. Sanberk said the Turkish government does not link the oil release with Turkey's permission for the allies to use Turkish facilities to maintain a protective air umbrella over Kurds exercising autonomy in northern Iraq.

Jericho settlers feel stranded by peace

NAAMA, occupied West Bank (AP) — Since Palestinian autonomy was implemented, a bumpy single-lane road through a minefield has become this settlement's connection with Israel and a symbol of the uneasy peace process.

Wary Israeli settlers take the road, once used only by the army to look for infiltrators, to avoid the Palestinian-controlled town of Jericho even though it often doubles the driving time to Jerusalem to 1½ hours.

The army closes Jericho to Israelis in times of tension, and even when the town is open many Israelis prefer the bypass because there is no chance of being stoned, or stopped by Palestinian police.

"For years we were trained to be wary of (Palestinians) and fight them in battle, and now I'm supposed to obey them?" said settler Giora Shoshan, a veteran of the 1982 Lebanon war when Israel tried to quash the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

The agreement granting Palestinians control of Jericho and the Gaza Strip in exchange for peace has left Naama hemmed in. At new army checkpoints separating Naama from the surrounding autonomy zone, soldiers check anyone entering or leaving the settlement.

Naama's 120 residents are weighing whether to leave now rather than wait five years for the fate of settlements to be decided — a provision of the autonomy agreement.

Unlike the zealous settlers in the hills above them who believe they are reclaiming "Biblical Jewish land," the families on this hot dusty plain came out of a sense of adventure — and because of hefty government subsidies.

Now, they feel, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin wants them

to leave on their own rather than to have the government pay to move 120,000 settlers back into Israel.

Since the Israeli army withdrew from Jericho on May 13, no settlers near the town have reported being stoned, much less shot. But even those settlers who support the autonomy agreement are concerned about the influx of thousands of outsiders expected to form a Palestinian government in Jericho, and about clashes with Palestinian police.

Several have been confronted by police in downtown Jericho for carrying weapons, even though the autonomy agreement allows them to.

Danny Gamliel, 32, a settler of Yemeni descent who speaks fluent Arabic, said he still runs errands in Jericho unarmed, unlike other settlers, but a recent rally by Islamic fundamentalists there, combined with plans for the Palestinian police force to grow from 460 to 2,600, have made Mr. Gamliel nervous enough to apply for a gun license.

Farmers such as Eyal Levy are having second thoughts about staying. "We don't know what tomorrow will bring," he said.

"We won't fight if we are told to move, if they would tell us we could prepare," said Dudu Bar, 32, of Naaran, a collective farm north of Naama. "Right now I don't know whether to invest more in my banana patch or not."

He said he was not concerned about a 20-minute confrontation he had in Jericho with a policeman who tried to take away his pistol.

But Bar may move to another collective farm inside Israel over the summer, he says.

"I don't see any future here," he said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Moroccan premier proposes consensus cabinet

RABAT (R) — Prime Minister-designate Abdul Latif Filali has proposed that Moroccan political parties form a cabinet of national consensus to tackle the country's main problems, an opposition leader said. Ali Yata, secretary-general of the Party of Progress and Socialism (PPS), told Reuters Mr. Filali made the proposal on Thursday when he received him for consultations.

"The prime minister believes that the solution of the main problems facing the country... demands coordinated efforts of all national patriotic forces. He proposes that the latter form a government of national consensus," Mr. Yata said. "He intends to wait three or four months to attain this objective," he added. Mr. Filali was designated prime minister by King Hassan a week ago. He consulted the leaders of nine parties this week with a view to forming an interim government to be presented to parliament next week. Leaders of the main opposition parties, the Istiqlal and the Socialist Union of People's Forces (USFP), said they were not invited to join a new cabinet to replace the government of non-party technocrats named in November after legislative elections last summer. Mr. Filali's proposal appeared to indicate that there would be no major change in the interim government to be formed next week and which would be a caretaker cabinet until the end of the summer.

Indonesian toll on Haj tops 500

JAKARTA (R) — The annual Haj pilgrimage has claimed the lives of 506 Indonesian Muslims, mostly through illness or old age, the Antara news agency said on Saturday. Antara, quoting religious ministry officials in Saudi Arabia, said some Indonesian pilgrims had also died because of the intense heat. It was unclear if the figures included five Indonesians killed in a Haj stampede almost two weeks ago near Mecca. Up to 270 pilgrims were killed in the stampede. On Thursday, Antara put the death toll of Indonesian pilgrims at 459. Indonesia is home to the world's biggest Muslim population, sent 163,000 pilgrims to the Haj, up from 123,000 in 1993. In 1990, up to 1,800 people were killed in a stampede in a pedestrian tunnel at Mecca. More than 450 Indonesians were among the dead.

Suspect charged with PKK membership

PARIS (AFP) — A suspected militant of the separatist Kurdish Labour Party (PKK) has been charged with membership in a "terrorist" organisation, judicial officials announced. Hasim Goniul, alias Zana, 28, was arrested in the northeastern city of Metz Tuesday. PKK militants told investigators after a police swoop against Kurdish separatists in November that Mr. Goniul had been entrusted with collecting funds for the PKK in southwest France. Mr. Goniul has already been charged with blackmail.

4 killed, 7 arrested in Egypt

ASSIUT (R) — Four militants were killed and four policemen were wounded in a shootout in southern Egypt on Friday, police sources said. In a separate clash in the south, one policeman was hurt. The sources said the first incident occurred when a police force stormed an abandoned house in the village of Hima in Sohag province, 450 kilometres south of Cairo, used a hideout by the four wanted militants. The sources said the militants opened fire. They were killed during the clash and the police commander, Hatem Hijazi, and three of his men were wounded in the clash. They said the militants were wanted for attacking trains carrying foreign tourists from upper Egypt to Cairo this year. In a second incident in the southern town of Al Badari, 330 kilometres south of Cairo, one police officer was wounded in his leg when his force raided a militant hideout. Seven militants were arrested in the raid. Militants have stepped up their attacks against police, public figures and tourists over the past two years in their drive to oust the government and impose a strict Islamic state. More than 400 people have been killed in political violence in Egypt over the past two years.

3 foreigners held in Turkey for drug smuggling

ISTANBUL (R) — Turkish police have detained three foreign women in connection with an attempt to smuggle 800 grammes of heroin, the semi-official Anatolian agency reported. One woman was Nigerian and one Ghanaian, it said. A British consulate spokeswoman told Reuters the third woman was carrying forged documents identifying her as a British citizen but she had refused to reveal her true nationality, police refused comment on when the women were detained.

Turkey, Israel negotiate free trade accord

ISTANBUL (R) — Turkey and Israel hope to lay down the framework of a free trade agreement next month, the Israeli minister of economics and planning, Shimon Shetret, said on Friday. Delegates from both countries were expected to meet again in late July to discuss the accord. Mr. Shetret was quoted as saying by Anatolia news agency. Mr. Shetret, on a two-day visit to Turkey, is accompanied by 70 Israeli businessmen seeking investment opportunities in Turkey's defence, security, transport and irrigation sectors. Turkish Minister of Economy Aykon Dogan told reporters after meeting the Israeli delegation that Turkey hoped to boost its exports to Israel, mainly in textiles and dried fruit. Trade between the two countries stood at \$210 million last year. Mr. Dogan also said he was pleased with the number of Israeli tourists visiting Turkey this year, who had helped boost Turkey's foreign exchange revenue. Some 36,000 Israeli tourists visited Turkey in the first quarter of this year, a sixfold increase over the same period last year. The number could reach 500,000 by the end of 1994, Israeli consular officials in Istanbul said. Turkey has become the number one holiday spot for Israelis in recent years.

Morocco: No decision on ties with Israel

RABAT (Agencies) — Morocco on Saturday reacted cautiously to a statement by Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres that Morocco and Israel would exchange representatives "of some kind" this year.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said that "if the Israeli side raised the question the Kingdom of Morocco has taken no decisions in this matter."

Morocco "still considers that such a decision is conditioned by Arab League resolutions and depends on the results of the Middle East peace process," the official news agency MAP quoted him as saying.

After conferring with King Hassan in Rabat on Thursday night, Mr. Peres said on his return to Israel: "It was agreed to renew or establish telecommunications between Israel

and Morocco and at a later stage to establish representations of some kind between the two countries."

In a statement on Friday, the government said King Hassan confirmed to Mr. Peres that he would host an international economic conference in the south Moroccan city of Marrakech in early November.

The summit, which the government said would be devoted to the development of the Middle East, will be attended by Israel and Arab states.

"Israel will participate," Mr. Peres said. "There will be many Arab countries participating and it will be an unprecedented thing."

Mr. Peres said the monarch also announced his agreement to establish direct telephone lines and make arrangements for mutual tourism more comfortable.

Flourishing trade between the two countries is seen as a forerunner for eventual diplomatic relations. Morocco has a Jewish community of about 60,000.

"It was agreed in principle that we will also open some kind of office between us," Mr. Peres said.

He said he knew the date they would be opened, but declined to reveal it, noting only that "it's possible" before the end of the year."

Israel Radio said the king rejected the offer to open formal relations now out of fear that it would hurt Morocco's clout in the Arab League.

Mr. Peres also briefed King Hassan on the accomplishments of the Middle East peace process, MAP said.

King Hassan "reaffirmed that Morocco will continue to work untiringly for a just and

equitable peace in the region," MAP reported, quoting the Moroccan Information Ministry.

The Moroccan monarch played an important role in contacts leading to the 1979 peace treaty between Israel and Egypt and has served as an intermediary in the current peace process. He is known to have met with Israeli leaders on several occasions.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin flew to Morocco last September after signing the peace accord with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat in Washington. That drove speculation that the two sides would open diplomatic ties.

Newspapers said Mr. Peres flew to Rabat from Madrid on an executive jet sent by King Hassan. The Israeli leader was in Europe on a stopover from a visit to Latin America.

War casts pall over Aden's majestic cape

By William Maclean
Reporter

ADEN — An hour or so by car from the front lines of Yemen's civil war, sun-bathers loll on a fine sandy beach and children play in the surf of a sparkling blue sea.

Under Cape Aden's majestic Mount Shamsan, youngsters kick a soccer ball by a hotel that with only modest investment could enter the luxury class.

The contrasts of Yemen's civil war are testimony to the political instability that has blighted the potential of a city struggling to escape from decades of cold war underdevelopment.

"Aden is beautiful, just look at that," a businessman said, motioning to Shamsan's 600-metre craggy heights and palm-lined beachfronts at a leisure resort.

"Why do the northerners want to destroy our city?" The port city, today mostly a crumbling collection of austere concrete tenements, has long dreamt of a brilliant future as a southern Arabian economic hub and tourist paradise.

Aden has been designated

the capital of the breakaway "Democratic Republic of Yemen" declared on May 21 by southern leaders fighting a military assault by northern rivals.

Tourist potential comes from its scenery, climate and beaches, similar those of the Aegean's volcanic islands, and more liberal and outward-looking attitudes than in most of Arabia.

Political instability has set back Aden's prospects before. In 1986, thousands of people were killed in the city in conflict within the Yemen Socialist Party, then the ruling party of pre-union Marxist South Yemen.

Southern Yemenis saw their 1990 union with the north as their chance to break out of the isolation caused by the collapse of cold war ally Soviet Union.

They sought to rebuild an economy hamstrung by years of doctrinaire socialism and provide a productive partnership with the north, which has four times the population and an economy five times as big.

But southerners found themselves the junior partner in the union and after years of controlled prices found it

difficult to adjust to the free market ways of the north.

But the month-old war with their more prosperous opponents has been a catastrophe for the fledgling redevelopment that had started in and around the Aden peninsula.

"Future City" is the signboard on an empty plot designated as a commercial development site beside the international airport, key target for northern missile attacks which slam into the surrounding area most nights.

The compounds for international staff who work for foreign oil companies developing oilfields in the eastern deserts are empty, their occupants long since evacuated.

Banks are open but communications restrictions have curbed their international business. The airport is closed to all but military flights and shipping activity is minimal.

"Things look quiet but it is not 100 per cent normal. Too many shops are closed," said one shopkeeper in the crater district. "People are staying at home."

After union with the north

a free trade zone was designated in an attempt to revive the city's entrepot tradition — in the 1960s Aden's duty free trade was among the largest of any city in the world with more than 200,000 transit passengers and tourists visiting every year.

Aden used to be one of the busiest oil-bunkering ports in the world, handling 550 ships a month.

Now the sound of shelling on three main fronts less than 100 kilometres away echoes around the city and the peaks of industrial little Aden across a bay to the west.

Water and electricity provided from installations in the hinterland are still running and inhabitants can watch different accounts of the war on Aden Television, which supplements its news with replays of news programmes from other Arab states.

Shells slam into pristine beaches on the coast northeast of the city where rolling surf washes up on what would be prime beachfront sites for hotel developers in time of peace.

But for the moment — and perhaps for a long time — the windsurfers, sunbathers and fun seekers will go elsewhere.

JORDAN TELEVISION

773111-19

PROGRAMME TWO

17:00 Surprise Surprise

17:30 News in French

18:45 News in Arabic

19:00 News in Arabic

20:00 You Bet Your Life

21:10 News in English

22:30 The House of Eliott

23:10 The Upper Hand

PRAYER TIMES

05:25 Fajr (Sunrise) Dubai

05:25 Fajr (Sunrise) Dhufur

12:24 Noon

16:14 Asr

19:42 Maghreb

21:16 Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swetfish, Tel. 810740

Assembly of God Church, Tel. 63785

St. Joseph Church Tel. 64590

De la Sola Church Tel. 661757

Terrence Church Tel. 622666

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541

WEATHER

Temperatures will gradually rise with winds northwesterly moderate, in Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Min./Max. temp.

Amman 15 / 29

Aqaba 23 / 35

Deserts 13 / 31

Jordan Valley 21 / 36

Yesterday's high temperature: Amman 26, Aqaba 33 Humidity readings: Amman 28 per cent, Aqaba 25 per cent.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENAER

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:

Dr. Nidal Al Dabbeh 827195

Dr. Bassam Karadshah 759200

Dr. Yehya Abdel Salam 75072

Dr. Ghazi Abu Sheikh 752405

Firas pharmacy 661912

Karadshah pharmacy 759200

Natroukh pharmacy 623672

Al Salem pharmacy 636730

Yacoub pharmacy 627660

Shamoun pharmacy 627660

Natroukh pharmacy 623672

Najib pharmacy 847632

EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 637111

Civil Defence Department 661111

Rescue 630341

Civil Defence Emergency 119

Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777

Fire Brigade 891228

Blood Bank 751221

Highway Police 843402

Traffic Police 896390

Public Security Department 630521

Highway Police 843402

Water and Sewerage 897467

Amman Municipality 787111

Complaints 787111

Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121

Overseas Calls 012320

Central Amman Telephone 623101

Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101

Jordan Television 773111

Radio Jordan 774111

Water Authority 680100

Jordan Electricity Authority 815615

Electric Power 636381

Company 06-53200

RJ Flight Information 06-53200

Queen Alia Int. Airport 06-53200

AMMAN:

Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32

Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn. 64241/2

Jabal Amman Maternity 623262

Malhej, J. Amman 664171/4

Palestine, Shamsan 669131

Shamsan Hospital 669131

University Hospital 843045

Al-Musader Hospital 66722/9

The Islamic, Abdali 666127/37

Al-Ahli, Abdali 661646

Italian, Al-Muhajirah 771012

Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafah 775111/26

Army, Marks 891611/15

Queen Alia Hospital 662240/50

Amal Hospital 674135

HOSPITALS

ZARQA:

Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323

Zarqa National Hospital (09)983323

Ibn Sina Hospital (09)983323

Al Hilan Modern Hospital (09)983323

IRBID:

Princess Baysa Hospital (02)73555

Grace Catholic Hospital (02)727275

Al Naif Hospital (02)947100

AQABA:

Princess Haya Hospital (03)34111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) Information department, based at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06)532005, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

06:45 Beirut (RJ)

09:45 Frankfurt (RJ)

11:30 Aqaba, Rome (RJ)

12:00 Vienna (RJ)

12:00 Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)

12:30 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)

12:40 Istanbul (RJ)

12:50 Athens (RJ)

21:00 Riyadh (RJ)

21:30 Jeddah (RJ)

21:45 Damascus (RJ)

22:15 Aqaba, Cairo (RJ)

22:25 New Delhi (RJ)

22:45 Singapore, Jakarta (RJ)

23:00 Bangkok (RJ)

23:15 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)

DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

06:45 Beirut (RJ)

09:45 Frankfurt (RJ)

11:30 Aqaba, Rome (RJ)

12:00 Vienna (RJ)

12:00 Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)

12:30 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)

12:40 Istanbul (RJ)

12:50 Athens (RJ)

21:00 Riyadh (RJ)

21:30 Jeddah (RJ)

21:45 Damascus (RJ)

22:15 Aqaba, Cairo (RJ)

22:25 New Delhi (RJ)

22:45 Singapore, Jakarta (RJ)

23:00 Bangkok (RJ)

23:15 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

04:20 Antalya (TK)

12:30 Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GF)

14:25 Moscow (SU)

19:05 Larnaca (RJ)

20:20 Cairo (MS)

21:15 Beirut (MS)

23:20 Istanbul (TA)

01:25 Amsterdam (KL)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

05:15 Antalya (TK)

07:30 Rome (A2)

14:30 Doha, Bahrain (GF)

16:05 Moscow (SU)

19:25 Larnaca (CV)

HAJAZ RAILWAY TRAIN

Dep. Amman 8:00 a.m. every Monday

Arr. Damascus 5:00 p.m. every Monday

Dep. Damascus 7:30 a.m. every Sunday

Arr. Amman 5:00 p.m. every Sunday

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Apple 550/650

Apricots 900/500

Banana 600

Banana (Mukammal) 620

Cabbage 180/170

Carrot 340/240

Cherry 950/600

Cauliflower 180/100

Cucumbers (large) 80/40

Cucumbers (small) 100/50

Eggplant 200/120

Garlic 650/450

Lemon 120/60

Marrow (large) 360/260

Marrow (small) 240/160

Mutukhalil 170/100

Orange 400/200

Onion (dry) 180/90

Sweet Melon 380/280

Pepper (hot) 240/160

Pepper (sweet) 320/220

Potato 380/300

Peaches 760/600

Tomato 160/90

String beans 460/360

Watermelon 190/100

Government forms panel to decide on pay raises

AMMAN (J.T.) — The government has formed a committee to decide on raising civil servants' salaries. Minister of Information Jawad Anani, declared yesterday.

In a wide ranging press conference Mr. Anani held after a Cabinet session that was chaired by His Majesty King Hussein, the minister said the

King had instructed the Cabinet to improve the working of the government bureaucracy and create an efficient climate for healthy investment.

News reports in the daily press yesterday said the government of Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali was about to approve a five per cent

increase on the basic salaries of civil servants and adjustment to cost of living allowances. The report said senior government officials would benefit from a 35 per cent increase in salaries.

Dr. Majali earlier this year complained that his government could not raise funds to increase civil servants' pay.

He, however, tied any increase of salaries to Parliament's endorsement of the sales tax law. The law has since been passed and went into effect on Thursday.

Civil servants last received a JD 15-20 raise in 1993. The average salary in government departments is JD 130 a month.

Media switch references to warring Yemeni forces

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A few days after they were criticised for their "biased" coverage of the civil war in Yemen, Jordan's official media have stopped referring to forces of southern Yemeni leader Ali Salem Al Beidh as "secessionists".

While they are still calling loyalists of Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh the "government forces", the media are now covering the activities and statements of the South Yemeni Socialist Party.

The media were last week

severely criticised by a group of journalists and writers for their "biased coverage" of the five-week civil war in Yemen pitting the forces of Mr. Saleh against those of Mr. Beidh amidst little chances for a decisive military victory for either side.

In a letter to Minister of Information Jawad Al Anani, the group urged a review of the media's policy in covering the Yemeni war and an end to its "encouragement of the illusion of a military solution" to the conflict in the Arabian Peninsula.

This review seems to have

taken place, said one observer. A seasoned political analyst who held a number of cabinet portfolios in the past said: "It was harsh to refer to the southern forces as secessionists and if this (position) has been reconsidered then it is a good thing."

Jordan has repeatedly denied having taken sides in the Yemeni conflict, defending the media's reference to the warring parties as "government" and "secessionists" as factual statements because Aden seceded from the Yemeni republic.

Many, however, questioned this argument, emphasising

that Jordan should be extremely careful in maintaining its neutrality on the conflict because of the large role it had played in mediating between Mr. Saleh and Mr. Beidh before war erupted on May 4.

The Kingdom has said it will not interfere in internal affairs of Yemen but stressed its support for the integrity of Yemen and the unity of its people.

"We should encourage the spirit of unity and invite the southerners to maintain it but we should be careful not to antagonise the south," said the analyst, who demanded anonymity.

U.N., Japanese specialists expected to assist in environmental projects

By Elia Nasrallah
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A team from the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is due here this month to follow up on details concerning the proposed green belt project to stem desertification on the eastern fringes of Jordan, according to Saleh Al Sharee, director of the Environment Department at the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment.

"The UNEP has promised us nearly \$6.5 million to help Jordan carry out the green belt project, for which the department has prepared detailed studies," Dr. Sharee told the Jordan Times Saturday.

According to the plan, a

five-kilometre-wide green belt of trees, shrubs and other vegetation will be set up along a 330-kilometre stretch from the north to the south of Jordan, in order to stem the encroachment of desert land westwards, said Dr. Sharee.

Another UNEP team is also expected here this month to examine the department's detailed study on a biodiversity programme concerning the various living creatures and plants in the Kingdom.

It is hoped that UNEP

will arrive here this month to study a department plan designed to organise the process of garbage disposal in the country.

"We have prepared a plan for organising the process of garbage disposal in various regions, and we were promised some \$8 million in a grant from JICA to help implement the project over two years," said Dr. Sharee.

He said that JICA will be providing the assistance in the form of expertise and equipment required for the project.

Dr. Sharee, who was speaking on the eve of World Environment Day, said that his department was keen on the implementation of the National

Environment Strategy which was launched by His Majesty King Hussein in March of 1992.

"This year we are observing World Environment Day under the theme 'One Land, One Family,' in order to emphasise the importance of contributions on the part of Jordanian families to ensuring a safe and sustainable environment in Jordan," said Dr. Sharee.

According to the department, its officials continually monitor the situation in and around the 21 main garbage dumps in Jordan and the functioning of the waste water treatment plants, as well as conduct studies on means of combating industrial and agricultural pollution.

Course opens on water quality monitoring Ministry prepares regulations to ensure safe water

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Health Ministry is preparing new water quality and water resources regulations to ensure safe potable water for domestic use, including the intensive measures started Saturday to monitor the water quality of water-tanks, according to Health Minister Abdul Rahim Malhas.

Addressing the opening session of a two-week seminar entitled "Regional Training Course on Global Environmental Monitoring Systems for Water Quality," which opened in Amman Saturday, Dr. Malhas complained that all the available water resources in Jordan are continually exposed to some degree of pollution, particularly through industrial and agricultural activities.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) is organising the seminar at the WHO-affiliated

Centre for Environmental Health Activities (CEHA), with the participation of specialists from nine different countries including Jordan, according to a CEHA official.

The participants are discussing issues related to water quality and monitoring and controlling water resources through continual laboratory testing and the continued control of underground water resources, said the official.

Jordan, like many countries in the Middle East, suffers from scarce water resources which are needed for socio-economic development; and like the other countries, Jordan is facing a growing demand for water as a result of population growth and expansion in economic and industrial projects, said Dr. Malhas in his keynote address.

Expressing appreciation to

WHO for organising the seminar in Amman, the minister stressed that the Health Ministry continues to take every precautionary measure to ensure the protection of the meagre water resources in the Kingdom.

In his message to the meeting, Hussein Jazairi, WHO regional director, drew the audience's attention to the need to end unorthodox agricultural practices, which entail excessive use of chemical substances and pesticides, because, he said, they tend to pollute the underground water resources and increase water salinity levels.

Also, the rapid population growth in the countries of the region has led to a retreat in the level of water quality in rivers, lakes, dams and aquifers, creating a genuine chal-

lenge to people living in this region, said Dr. Jazairi in his message, read on his behalf by Mohammad Sheikh, CEHA director in Amman.

Several working papers to be reviewed at the meeting, including two from Jordan, deal with water quality, guarantees for good quality water for domestic use, treatment of saline water found underground and recycling of treated water, among other topics.

According to the CEHA official, the participants will visit the reservoir behind the King Talal Dam, the largest dam in the Kingdom, and conduct several biological tests on its water, as well as inspect the water areas in the Zarqa basin.

Representatives of United Nations organisations operating in Jordan and concerned government ministries attended the opening session.

A recital spanning centuries

By Jean-Claude Elias
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — British musicians Anna Williams and Jonathan Mallalieu are presenting a concert of selected works spanning 500 years, from the 16th to 20th century, at the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC) tonight.

Mr. Mallalieu on piano and viola, and Ms. Williams on oboe, piano, and bass viol are talented, complementary

performers. They graduated from Oxford University and Bristol University respectively and share a wide experience of music. They are current members of the orchestra of the National Music Conservatory, Noor Al Hussein Foundation who are presenting the event.

Just reading the programme they have prepared for Sunday's concert would make any music lover eager to be

there. A Hungarian dance by Brahms, a sonata by J.S. Bach, another by Glinka, a romance by Schumann and "Divisions on Greensleeves," an anonymous but famous 16th century tune.

The most unexpected piece however, is the "Blue Rondo A La Turk" by the celebrated American jazz pianist Dave Brubeck.

Taken from Brubeck's milestone album "Time Out"

some 35 years ago, the composition, based on a Turkish folk rhythm bears an original pattern of compound time signature. One of Brubeck's masterpieces, it has everything to satisfy the most demanding ears: the fascinating theme, the exotic rhythm, the fine harmonies and the definite, traditional jazz spirit.

With the prospect of such a wide palette, the recital should be one of the most entertaining of the season.

Medical team returns from Yemen 'Unstrategic location' makes providing care difficult

By Natasha Bukhari
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Only a fully equipped medical team can offer help to the wounded in Yemen's war, said Ishaq Maraqa, head of the Jordanian Medical Association (JMA), in explaining why a Jordanian medical mission returned last Sunday, soon after it went to the divided country.

In an interview with the Jordan Times Saturday, Dr. Maraqa said the team of doctors sent by the JMA following the outbreak of civil war in Yemen was unable to provide proper medical attention to any war casualties because of the "unstrategic location" of the team situated in an area in Sanaa 350 kilometres away from the battle front.

He added that transportation facilities were very poor, and that no effort was exerted

by the parties concerned to transport emergency cases to hospitals.

"Your doctors were handling civil injuries rather than military cases," said Dr. Maraqa, adding that most hospitals in Sanaa were evacuated, which created difficulties for the team in terms of medical facilities.

He said that in the absence of a fully staffed medical team, including nurses and technicians, it was impossible for doctors to be of any benefit to the war casualties.

"What's the use of surgeons if they cannot use operating rooms?" he said, explaining that most staff in hospitals had fled the capital and that hospitals' foreign staff, who were a majority, had been evacuated.

Saying that the situation in Yemen was very bad, Dr. Maraqa expressed the JMA's willingness to cooperate with

the Ministry of Health in preparing a fully equipped team of doctors, nurses, anaesthetists and technicians to be sent to Yemen.

According to the doctor, such a team could occupy one of the evacuated hospitals "such as the Palestinian Red Cross Hospital which was evacuated as its staff had moved to Gaza and Jericho after the signing of the Cairo agreement," he added.

Although both northern and southern sides in Yemen accepted U.N. Security Council resolution 924 calling for a ceasefire, bloodshed in the war-stricken country is on the increase, according to the latest news reports.

Political and diplomatic sources in Sanaa said the northern government has sent fresh troops to fronts around Aden, while southerners continued their air attacks on



Ishaq Maraqa northern forces.

Dr. Maraqa said that despite the warm welcome the JMA received by Yemenis, their presence was met with uneasiness by local doctors, who were automatically sent to the warring fronts in the presence of the Jordanian delegation.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

FILMS

- Chinese film entitled "The Producer of Sesame Oil" at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabal Amman at 7:30 p.m.
- Film entitled "The Fish That Saved Pittsburgh" at the American Center at 5:00 p.m. (104 minutes).

MUSIC RECITAL

- "Recital Of Music From Five Centuries" by Anna Williams and Jonathan Mallalieu at the Royal Cultural Centre/main theatre at 8:00 p.m.

LECTURE

- Lecture in Arabic on cinema by critic Hassan Abu Ghannem at the Phoenix Gallery for Art and Culture at 7:30 p.m. (Tel. 695291).

EXHIBITIONS

- Exhibition of paintings by Fatima El-Helw at Goethe-Institut.
- Ceramics exhibition by artist Huda Qassem at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- Art exhibition of Chinese paintings at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabal Amman.
- Photography exhibit entitled "Faces of Jordan" at the American Center.
- Exhibition by artist Isam Tantawi at Balqa Art Gallery in Fuhais (Tel. 720677).
- Exhibition by artist Abeer Bawab at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- Exhibition of photographs of "The Living Dead Sea" by Paula Williams-Brown at the Gallery of the Hotel Jordan Inter-Continental.
- Exhibition by 46 artists entitled "He, Bonjour Monsieur La Fontaine" at the French Cultural Centre.



ADMINISTRATIVE COOPERATION: Royal Scientific Society (RSS) President Hani Mulki and Housing and Urban Development Department (HUDD) Director Yousef Hiyasat Saturday sign an agreement whereby RSS will provide consultative and technical services to HUDD and computerise its various administrative functions. Mr. Hiyasat said that the accord calls for the RSS to offer his staff lectures on computer work and to help recruit teams to work at the computer unit. He said other services under the agreement include providing recommendations concerning the department's administrative needs and future expansion programmes (Petra photo)

14th Arab Children's Congress to introduce new elements

By Elia Nasrallah
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Three elements to be introduced into this year's 14th Arab Children's Congress are expected to further project the objectives of the annual function which is organised and sponsored by the Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF).

Lina Tell, director of the programme for this year said that the 14th congress will be organised under the theme "The Role of the Family in Promoting Common Arab Culture," and will truly aim at achieving this goal.

Unlike the previous events, the first aspect of the formal opening at the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC), which will be attended by Her Majesty Queen Noor, entails folkloric dances and poetry readings depicting the traditional cultures of the various participating Arab countries, in addition to other regular programmes of singing performances. Ms. Tell told the Jordan Times.

The second new element in this year's programme is the transmission via the Arab satellite channel of the various children's activities and visits during the July 17-22 congress in order to highlight this annual event before the entire Arab World and beyond, Ms. Tell said.

But the most significant development this year is the inclusion of a two-day workshop which will involve the participating children in various arts such as painting, acting and poetry reading.

stand the numerous tragedies and disasters that continue to haunt the Arab World, Ms. Tell stressed.

Initiated by Queen Noor after the 1980 Arab summit in Amman, the event brings together children from various parts of the Arab World in a programme of cultural activities, discussions and visits to historical sites and development projects in the Kingdom.

"We sent out invitations for children from all Arab states, and by mid-June we expect the replies so that we can make arrangements for the participating youth to attend the congress' activities," said Ms. Tell.

She explained that the children range in age between 10 and 15, and the congress usually invites four children from each Arab state, accompanied by a female supervisor.

Through their shared experiences during their stay here, and during their travel around the country, the children learn new skills and come to know more about Jordan, its people and history as well as its relationship with the other Arab countries, said Ms. Tell.

During this year, which has been dedicated to the international year of the family, we want to show the world that cohesion within the Arab family has helped it to with-

Workshop to open on business promotion

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Centre for Development Services (CDS) under the co-sponsorship of the Near East Foundation/Jordan (NEF) and the Regional Centre on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development for the Near East (CARDNE) today open a regional workshop on the design and management of business promotion programmes within the context of local and rural development.

The workshop will take

place in Amman through June 23. A total of 35 participants from Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Oman, Palestine and Sudan will attend the workshop.

The training will stress active learning, and trainees will take part in field exercises and learning projects. They will also prepare reports and presentations dealing with issues in the course or faced by them in their

work. The course will crystallize and articulate the experience of both trainees and trainers from their actual practice of business promotion in the Middle East.

Training material will address issues of local economic development, strategies for business promotion and small business finance.

The training will include several field trips to local communities to understand

factors affecting the economy of those areas, to small business sectors, and to sites where public agencies or non-governmental organisations (NGOs) are implementing small business programme.

Reports and recommendations will follow each field trip.

During the final ceremony, certificates will be distributed to the participants at the end of the training course.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Minister leaves for ILO meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — Labour Minister Khaled Ghazawi left for Geneva Saturday to attend the 81st meeting of the International Labour Organisation (ILO). The minister, who is accompanied by a delegation representing the government, as well as employers and employees in Jordan, will deliver the Kingdom's address at the meeting and will hold talks with heads of Arab delegations.

Zarqa opens ombudsman office

ZARQA (Petra) — Zarqa Governor Misliah Tarawneh Saturday announced the opening of a special ombudsman office to receive and deal with public complaints. Mr. Tarawneh said that the office also will welcome proposals by the public to develop municipal services.

U.S. scholars visit chamber of commerce

AMMAN (Petra) — A group representing teachers of U.S. universities, led by Fuad Suleiman, Saturday visited the Amman Chamber of Commerce and met Haidar Murad, who

outlined the chamber's role in promoting the national economy. Mr. Murad also briefed the visitors on Jordan's economic difficulties resulting from the Gulf crisis.

Exhibit opens in Irbid

IRBID (Petra) — Ministry of Social Development Secretary General Suleiman Rousan Saturday opened an annual exhibition displaying items by handicapped students in the Irbid region. The students, who are all taking training at rehabilitation centres, are displaying works in woodwork, garments, upholstery embroideries and bamboo furniture. The exhibition will last four days.

Ports director leaves for Cairo meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan Ports Corporation Director Dureid Mahasneh Saturday left for Cairo to take part in the joint Jordanian-Egyptian Transport Committee meeting which is due to start Sunday. The three-day meeting covers the performance of the Aqaba-Nweibeh maritime ferry service and the implementation of the committee's earlier decisions and recommendations.

Save water ... every drop counts!

King deplores lack of coordination

(Continued from page 1)

within the 'framework of wishes' which could not materialise and be translated into fact and if so we have to look at our own interests because we believe that the most basic thing for this country is to be strong because strength increases the chances for our brothers to attain their rights in the manner that was chosen by the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The Palestinian leadership and people have the right to determine their own desires and their own goals and we can say nothing in this respect except to wish the brothers full success. At the same time we have to look after our own interest and rights lest we become the weak point or marginalised, something that would have catastrophic consequences at the national and pan-Arab levels.

Arafat demands release of funds

(Continued from page 1)

Nabil Shaath said the PLO had only received \$7 million in the international aid promised for the Palestinian police force far short of the funds needed.

He said he had already handed over \$4.2 million to police chiefs enough to pay two months salaries to the 3,500 Palestinian police now deployed in the autonomous Gaza Strip and Jericho areas.

The head of the new Palestinian police force, Nasser Yousef, has said that the police had no budget and were borrowing money to pay the bills.

Dr. Shaath warned the annual wages bill would be more than \$42 million for the future 9,000-strong force, while a total \$160 million was needed to set up and run the force in its first year.

The World Bank has estimated the annual running costs at \$90 million.

Meanwhile the police began to receive their first pay packets for the month of May on Friday and Saturday, Palestinian sources said.

Wages vary between \$450 for the lowest ranks up to \$1,200 a month for a senior officer.

On Thursday, Abdul Aziz Al Haj Ahmad, who has been named transport minister in the yet-to-be-installed Palestinian self-rule authority, said the PLO has money to pay the wages of its civil servants in the Gaza Strip and Jericho at least until the end of August.

The authority inherited 7,600 Palestinian civil servants in Gaza and 230 in Jericho from the former Israeli military

administration which stopped paying their wages on May 31.

The United States, the European Union and Japan, among others, have pledged \$613 million to help fund Palestinian self-rule this year.

Dr. Shaath said so far Norway had donated \$2 million to the police force and the United States \$5 million, and he expected a further \$5 million in the next few days from the European Union.

In Stockholm, former Swedish Foreign Minister Sten Andersson said the Middle East peace process could be threatened if the promised international funds were not provided.

"If peace is to be preserved, the PLO needs money," he said after meeting with Mr. Arafat in the PLO's Tunis headquarters.

But Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said Saturday that the new authority had to be open to accountability if it was to get the promised funds.

"No democratic state will give one penny if they don't know where it's going," Mr. Peres told Israeli radio, advising Mr. Arafat not to adopt the policy of believing he was "entitled" to the money.

"He must also learn that the world is built on mutual relations. You give, you take. Nobody is entitled to manna from heaven."

Mr. Peres urged Mr. Arafat to act swiftly to secure international funds.

The truth is, we're about to miss the season," Mr. Peres told Israeli armed forces radio.

"The world is big, it doesn't revolve around us. There are many other places in the world crying out for help and aid. This is one of the reasons why we must act faster."

"There is still a lot of good-will around us. It will not last forever," Mr. Peres said.

seven soldiers who bloodied his face and damaged his video camera.

Israeli radio said the cameraman, a member of the Peace Now group, filed a complaint with the Hebron police.

Hebron, a city of 110,000 Palestinians and 450 Jewish settlers, has been tense since the Feb. 25 mosque massacre in which Jewish settler Baruch Goldstein shot and killed more than 30 worshippers.

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Protesting Palestinians threw stones at soldiers as the eighth man, Maisara Dukhan, accused of belonging to the Islamic Resistance Movement Hamas, was taken to the Israeli border post Nahal Oz.

Jordan, Israel start border talks tomorrow

(Continued from page 1)

meeting between Mr. Rubin and Jordanian officials was to take place Monday. The two sides are to discuss disputes over water and territory, the radio said.

Israel's bilateral negotiations with Jordan, Syria and Lebanon have been suspended since the Feb. 25 mosque massacre in which a Jewish settler killed 30 Muslim worshippers in the West Bank town of Hebron.

Jordan is seeking the return of a 32-square kilometre strip along the border from the Gulf of Aqaba to the Dead Sea, as well as two square kilometres south of Lake Tiberias in the Jordan Valley.

Jordan's territorial claims date back to 1922 when Britain held the Palestine mandate and drew up an arbitrary border between Palestinians and then Transjordan.

Jordan had been pressing Israel for months to accept the idea of fixing frontiers with the Kingdom and setting up a joint commission on border demarcation and delineation in line with maps of British-mandated Palestine.

It has repeatedly said that it would be extremely difficult to make joint arrangements in other fields including economic cooperation, before the issues of borders and security are resolved.

Citing the start of Palestinian self-rule and prospects of possible moves in Israel's talks with Lebanon and Syria, Dr. Anani said Saturday Amman was ready to take a more daring line in its talks with Israel to prevent its role from being "marginalised."

"We notice that the peace process is taking a new turn and that Jordan, in spite of its important role regarding the peace process, cannot stay lagging behind the other tracks," he said.

"Therefore, Jordan will take

the necessary steps related to peace that will allow it to keep the initiative on issues related to Jordanian interests," Dr. Anani added. "But we will not take any step in haste."

Dr. Anani reiterated Jordan's commitment to the principle of comprehensive Middle East peace but that did not mean it would not implement certain agreements it reaches with Israel before signing a full peace agreement. Jordan would continue to coordinate peace policies with other Arabs, he added.

Dr. Anani also spoke in some detail about the issues discussed by the Cabinet on Saturday.

The King's main message to the Cabinet was strengthening the internal front and improving the performance of various sectors and reducing bureaucracy that has been hindering private sector investments, he said.

The King stressed that all Jordanians, regardless of their origin, have equal rights and duties and that the Jordanian front should remain integrated and solid stressing that pluralism should be a source of strength, Dr. Anani said.

In the present critical stage Jordan should basically depend on its own resources and its strength lest there would be any weakness in the national front, the minister quoted the King as saying at the meeting.

According to Dr. Anani, the King said that the present stage is critical, requiring careful decisions "because we must reconcile between what is happening around us and what our aspirations are."

"We must not abandon our principled stands, but this does not mean we remain rigid," the minister said.

"We discussed the ongoing peace process, which is taking a new trend," he said, adding that the Kingdom could not

remain lagging behind other tracks but without showing any rashness which could lead to undesirable results.

"The King told the Cabinet that while Jordan does not approve of rash actions it would also not accept a situation whereby delays in progress along the other tracks would create pressures on Jordan or accept to be marginalised in the peace process," Dr. Anani said.

Therefore, he said, Jordan would be taking steps that would enable it to assume the initiative with regard to Jordanian affairs.

The main issues of concern to Jordan in the peace talks are the borders and the restoration of the occupied Jordanian territory in accordance with the 1929 demarcation lines, he said.

"In the event agreement has been achieved, the Israelis should agree to returning the territory and the formation of a committee of experts to define the borders according to the 1929 mandate accord," he said.

"We are also demanding our rights in water resources regardless of Israeli statements that the water anyway is not sufficient and attention should rather be turned towards tapping new resources," he said.

"Jordan believes that both matters are of significance and that the work of the bilateral committees on water and energy and the environment should be continued so that we can take steps towards regaining our full rights," the minister said.

"If Israel expresses readiness and willingness to return the Jordanian lands and waters at the Washington meeting... then there should be some arrangement to shift the negotiations to the region here so that we can be close to taking decisions and so that the com-

mittees could meet on the site to be able to define exactly the land and water rights due to Jordan," he said.

"We believe in a comprehensive solution which is not a mere slogan but a reality, and practical steps that should be taken on the ground. We wish to see continuous progress along the Syrian-Israeli track since the Golan is clearly Syrian territory that should be fully returned to Syrian sovereignty," Dr. Anani said.

The timetable being discussed for Israel's withdrawal from the Golan in return for Syrian measures are viewed by Jordan as sufficient to transform the peace process into reality, he said.

"We also support moves towards restoring Lebanon's sovereignty over all its territories," he said.

Referring to the Palestinian track, he said, progress was achieved and Jordan is trying to coordinate with the Palestinians. "Yet, we believe that the Arab parties should coordinate among themselves before agreeing with the other side and that is what we had always aimed at achieving," he said.

Jordan, he added, "cannot leave matters as they are and allow itself to be lagging behind because this would paralyse its movement towards the achievement of Arab objectives."

"All our actions would not be taken rashly but in good time and Jordan should keep its stand clear because without Jordan no peace can be achieved in the region," he added.

In reply to a question about the civil war in Yemen, the minister said that Jordan recognised Yemeni legitimacy in accordance with the reconciliation agreement signed by all parties in Amman on Feb. 20.

Queen Mother remembered

(Continued from page 1)

under the leadership of the late King Abdullah Ben Al Hussein.

The Queen Mother played a major role in the political development of the Kingdom in the early 1950s, in the writing of the 1952 Constitution that gave full rights to women and in social development in the country, and in 1944 she led the creation of the first women's union in Jordan.

Queen Zein filled a constitutional vacuum after the assassination of King Abdullah in 1951 while the newly proclaimed King Talal was being treated outside the Kingdom and later in the period between August 1952 when King Hus-

sein was proclaimed monarch and in 1953 when he assumed his constitutional duties at the age of 18, during which a regency council was entrusted to run the affairs of the state.

The late Queen Mother was a symbol of motherhood dedicated her entire life to children and country.

She was also instrumental in establishing the branch of the Jordan Red Crescent Society and dedicated time and effort to the Um Al Hussein O. age in Amman.

Queen Zein also contributed much to social and rian services in the and gave particular to the nation's cha nisations and volun tions.

Assad: Israel building tensile

(Continued from page 1)

spokeswoman Christine Shih.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Thursday he had asked Syria, through U.S. intermediaries, to stop Hizbollah rocket attacks against Galilee.

Ms. Shelly said no exact date has been set for the next meeting of State Secretary Christopher to the region. Last month, Mr. Christopher shuttled between Israel and Syria trying to advance a peace accord between the two countries.

The U.S. ambassador in Beirut, Mark Hambley, said the United States was in contact with the Lebanese, Syrian and Israeli governments to contain the situation.

After a meeting Friday with President Elias Hrawi, Mr. Hambley called for "continued

efforts to calm down atmosphere" and prevent stalled Middle East peace being further.

In the latest conflict in South Lebanon, the Hezbollah guerrillas were killed as they tried to mount a night raid in the central sector of the Israeli-occupied "security zone."

Security sources said the South Lebanon Army, Israel's surrogate militia, detected the infiltrators in the Rihan mountain region late Friday night and shelled the area with cannon fire from T-55 tanks, killing the three men.

The sources said there were no SLA casualties in that encounter.

But Hizbollah claimed Saturday that a number of SLA men were killed or wounded. It admitted that three of its fighters were slain near Rihan.

Southern Yemenis seek more fighters

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Jifri told AFP that his forces might call for Saudi military support in battling northern troops.

He said southern leaders had "not yet decided" whether to issue such a call, but added that "everything is possible and legitimate to protect our people."

Mr. Jifri was speaking just before Gulf Arab states met in Abha, southwest Saudi Arabia, to debate the Yemeni conflict.

Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal warned in his opening speech that the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) could intervene if the fighting continued.

"The continuation of fighting will have repercussions on GCC countries which will make it necessary to take mea-

sures," he said, without giving further details.

King Fahd of Saudi Arabia urged North and South Yemen to implement the Security Council call for a ceasefire, referring for the first time to the country's separation.

"I consider that the current differences between the north and the south can happen anywhere in the world," the king said in an interview broadcast late Friday on the London-based Arabic television station MBC.

"If the north and the south accept U.N. Security Council Resolution 924, it will be a good initiative and one that should lead to a definitive halt to the fighting," he said.

Mr. Jifri indirectly confirmed that Saudi troop reinforcements had built up along the Saudi-Yemeni border, but said that it was "a precaution

that any state would take in the event of war in its neighbouring state."

He added he was "sure Saudi Arabia would not intervene unless it was asked to by somebody," adding such a request would be "internationally legitimate."

It was possible the GCC would adopt a resolution calling on its six member countries — Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates — to recognise the breakaway Yemen Democratic Republic, Mr. Jifri added.

But a northern diplomat warned the war would drag on for 100 years if the south's "secession" was recognised by the Arab World or the international community.

"We will then be two countries and for decades we will devote ourselves to war, instead of development," said Ghaleb Ali Jamil, Yemen's

ambassador to Saudi Arabia, in an interview with the Kuwaiti daily Al-Siyassah.

Southern leaders declared independence on May 21, but no country has officially recognised the declaration which aims to end four years of unity between the former conservative North Yemen and the Marxist South.

The south's appointed prime minister, Haidar Abu Bakr Al Attas began a tour of several Arab countries Friday in a renewed bid to drum up support for the breakaway state.

So far Qatar is the only Gulf monarchy to have publicly denounced the south's declaration of independence.

Saudi Arabia, which initiated the U.N. ceasefire resolution along with other Gulf states, has denied northern charges that it is siding with the south in the war.

Sanaa maintains that the war is an internal Yemeni affair.

Clinton: N. Korea sanctions certain

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Clinton said he has talked extensively with his military commanders about the North Korean situation but added, "I do not want a lot of sabre-rattling or war talk."

"All we want them to do is keep their word," he said, adding that the United States was trying "to give them a chance to do it."

Pyeongyang can survive any economic sanctions imposed by the international community over its suspected nuclear programme, North Korean ambassador to China, Chu Chang-Jun, said in Beijing.

North Korea "will survive economic sanctions and achieve victory in this struggle," Mr. Chu said, reiterating that Pyongyang would regard the imposition of sanctions "as a declaration of war."

Mr. Chu also slammed U.S. talks with South Korea and Japan over the nuclear crisis on the Korean Peninsula, stressing that the matter could only be resolved through direct North Korea-U.S. negotiations.

"Although the United States is talking with other countries, it is refusing to sit down with us," Mr. Chu said.

"So we have no opportunity to have discussions for resolving the nuclear issue."

Direct bilateral talks with Washington are the only path to Pyongyang's acceptance of full International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) inspections of its nuclear facilities and a reaffirmation of its commitment to the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), Mr. Chu added.

The main obstacle to the growing movement in the United Nations in favour of economic sanctions is China, which might veto any such resolution in the Security Council.

South Korea meanwhile declared its readiness to meet any military threat from North Korea.

Hebron curfew

(Continued from page 1)

seven soldiers who bloodied his face and damaged his video camera.

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DISTINGUISHED

ACHIEVEMENT



To commemorate signing the Foundation year agreement at the Duchess Room - Leeds University



Mr. Basem Barakat D.G. of R.A.M.S. and Professor D. Holdcroft Chairman Northern Consortium

Director General Basem Barakat has signed the foundation year agreement with a group of British Universities called Northern Consortium.

This agreement is considered the first of its kind in the Middle East. Based on it, without studying GCE O'level or A'level, students from Rawdat Al Maaref College and Schools can, after getting the secondary education certificate (Tawjihi), study the foundation year at the college in Amman to be able afterwards to join one of 12 prestigious British universities for three years to obtain the bachelors degree.

These universities are University of Bradford, University of Huddersfield, University of Leeds, Leeds Metropolitan University, University of Liverpool, Liverpool John Moores University, University of Manchester, UMIST, Manchester Metropolitan University, University of Salford, University of Sheffield and Sheffield Hallam University.

The agreement will be effective as of the 1994-1995 scholastic year.

The Arab Jordanian Company For The Development of Private Education

Rawdat Al-Ma'aref Schools and college (R.A.M.S.)

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The start of the Foundation Year 1.9.1994

A one year program divided over two semesters; the course is designed and monitored by the Northern Consortium which consists of the following Universities:

University of Bradford, University of Huddersfield, University of Leeds, Leeds Metropolitan University, University of Liverpool, Liverpool John Moores University, University of Manchester, UMIST, Manchester Metropolitan University, University of Salford, University of Sheffield, Sheffield Hallam University.

Students of all nationalities holding High School Diploma (12 years of Education), or National Certificate of Education (Tawjihi) will be accepted into the program; no GCE O'level or A'level are required.

Enrolled students are advised attending a five week English Language course at R.A.M.S starting 2nd of July before commencing the foundation Year program.

Students who will successfully pass the foundation year will be guaranteed to continue a three year undergraduate degree at one of the Northern Consortium Universities.

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Non-aligned accuse rich nations of protectionism

CAIRO (R) — Non-aligned countries accused rich nations of sidestepping agreements to liberalise trade and investment under the pretext of social and environmental concerns.

The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) made up mainly of developing countries, also called for compensation for the loss of special trade preferences after this year's signing of the Uruguay Round of the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT).

"The developing countries are undertaking... comprehensive economic liberalisation policies, developed countries are resorting to various protectionist measures," non-aligned foreign ministers said after a four-day meeting.

They also expressed concern that some developing nations were losing access to vital technology because industrialised nations were imposing export bans on "dual-use" technology which could be used for military means.

Indian Minister of State for External Affairs R.L. Bhatia, in a speech to delegates earlier in the week, criticised Western policies linking trade with political issues.

"Pressures mount on us on human rights... the environment and so on," Mr. Bhatia said. "It is almost as though these concepts have just been invented and are being sold to the developing world except that the terms of the sale are harsh."

Ministers called for compensation "for the least developed countries as well as net food importers who will experience difficulties due to the overall erosion of preferences and income loss resulting from application of the Uruguay Round."

Pakistan's Foreign Minister Sardar Asef Ahmad Ali said GATT was a deal which would "squeeze the poor." "We all got a bad deal out of GATT. It was a very shabby agreement."

Oil exporters have criticised Western plans for carbon taxes, describing them as barriers to trade set up in the name of environmental concern.

The 108-member movement group, countries as diverse as Nepal, Honduras and the oil-rich Gulf Arab states. Some members say the organisation, set up in the cold-war era, should now focus on lobbying for Third World causes, especially economic ones.

"Developing countries con-

tinue to suffer from sluggish growth as a result of inadequate access to trade and technology, historically low commodity prices and excessive debt burdens," the group's final statement said.

It said Africa in particular was still struggling with a "critical economic situation."

The ministers urged rich countries to reduce debts owed to them by the developing world, and said they should honour an agreed target of allocating 0.7 per cent of gross national product for development aid to poorer countries.

The ministers called in their statement for NAM to join officials from the G-77, a Third World pressure group at the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in seeking greater economic partnership with rich nations.

But, pointing to successes of Asian members like Singapore and Malaysia, they said economic growth was "self-sustaining" in some regions, and did not always depend on the health of economies of the richer countries.

They said the progress of the developing countries "can no longer be viewed in terms of repercussions stemming exclusively from an upturn in activity in the developed world."

Top currency experts warn against market control

LONDON (R) — Top figures in the foreign exchange world warned central bankers Friday against overreacting to volatile new trading products that some regulators fear could trigger a market crash.

Senior officials in the global umbrella organisation for currency traders said so-called derivatives, such as options and swaps, posed little risk to world financial stability and did not need the heavy hand of central bank regulation.

"We are concerned that one day we will be over-regulated," Rolf Willi, secretary general of the Association Cambiste Internationale (ACI), told reporters on the first full day of the group's annual meeting in London.

"We are permanently running that risk," he said.

The association, grouping 51

national foreign exchange clubs, is the main forum for currency traders who handle trillions of dollars in money deals per year.

They meet against background of market turmoil since a surprise increase in U.S. interest rates in February triggered bond and stock market tumbles and sowed concern about the stability of the whole financial system.

Much of the blame has fallen on the explosive growth in derivatives, financial tools that are widely used by traders and fund managers to offset potential risk or boost their profits through speculation.

Some regulators now argue that derivatives, far from protecting against risk, magnify the dangers of banks and other institutions suffering crippling market losses.

The use of derivatives has surged over the past few years, with up to \$12 trillion worth of such trades per year. They are derived from "underlying" cash markets and typically offer a chance to bet on future price trends.

With markets increasingly globalised through split-second screen trading, some regulators worry that a serious misstep in the derivatives market could spark off a domino-like crash throughout the banking system.

"But the ACI's Willi and association president David Clark, briefing reporters at the conference, dismissed the view that derivatives posed a sinister threat to world financial health.

"The worst thing that could happen... is that someone

comes along and regulates the derivatives market," said Mr. Clark.

Mr. Willi called on regulators to become better acquainted with the complex workings of such instruments rather than impose strict controls. "In all categories that we are trading in, derivatives are probably one of the safest markets of all," he said.

The issue of regulating derivatives was highlighted by a report from the investigative arm of the U.S. Congress, the General Accounting Office, in May which found "significant weaknesses" in controls.

The ACI is strongly in favour of self-regulation, arguing that top management in individual banks must learn to understand the complicated deals which their traders are

carrying out so that they can assess accurately their exposure to risk.

Their views find a sympathetic audience in Britain's free-market Conservative government, which hopes that its hand-off approach will make London the unchallenged financial capital of Europe.

"In contrast to some other marketplaces, the regulatory system in the U.K. has allowed these new products to be developed," Trade and Industry Secretary (Minister) Michael Heseltine told the two-day working conference.

"This does not mean that financial markets in the U.K. are unsupervised, far from it. But we in the U.K. do not impose a mass of burdensome procedural regulations on markets," he said.

Paris Club cuts \$7b from Russia's '94 debt

PARIS (R) — The Paris Club of government creditors agreed Saturday to reschedule Russia's foreign debt of \$15 billion, saving Moscow more than \$7 billion in payments this year, the French treasury said.

The deal with the informal group of lenders was struck during the night after two days of talks between a Russian delegation led by Acting Finance Minister Sergei Dubinin and representatives of Western governments.

A Paris Club source said the accord demonstrated the West's political will to help Russia through the economic turmoil of free market reforms and was broadly similar to a first Paris Club deal in April last year that saved Russia \$15 billion on payments due mainly in 1992 and 1993.

The source said Russia's 1994 debts would be paid over the next 15 years, with nothing due for the first three years. It would allow a smoother stream of payments than last year's record, which rescheduled over 10 years with five years' grace.

But the creditors were slightly less generous than in 1993 in delaying repayment of interest, as opposed to principle. Last year an unusual 60 per cent of 1993 interest was rescheduled.

Wealthy industrial powers wanted Russia's debt of \$30 billion, of which \$15 billion

is owed to foreign states in the Paris Club, could put an unbearable strain on its economy.

Russia has shouldered the lion's share of the former Soviet Union's debts since the communist state broke up in 1990-91, and Western governments are anxious not to undermine reformist President Boris Yeltsin by being too demanding right now.

At the same time they are concerned that Russia preserve its credibility as a borrower in order to obtain new credits. So they are not writing off its debts but simply postponing repayments to give the struggling economy time to right itself.

The governments underlined their wish that Russia's private creditors, notably commercial banks, reach a similar accord.

"Debt relief on comparable terms is expected from other creditors," the formal club statement from the treasury said.

An agreement in principle on 1992 and 1993 debts between Moscow and creditors banks in the so-called London Club has still not been signed.

Russia owes the banks about \$26 billion in total.

Because of the dispute, Moscow only paid out a total of \$2.5 billion out of the \$3 billion it had budgeted for debt service payments to all creditors in 1993.

Australia may record 4.5% growth in 95-96

SYDNEY (AFP) — Australia's economy may expand faster than government forecasts if businesses start to boost investment, Treasury Secretary Ted Evans said here Friday.

Treasurer Ralph Willis forecast on May 10, when handing down the country's budget, that the economy would grow by 4.5 per cent in the year to June 30, 1995 and by 4.25 per cent in 1995-96.

But Mr. Evans, Mr. Willis's top advisor, when asked if a 4.5 per cent growth rate could be extended into 1995-96, told reporters: "Yes, it is hardly out of the ball park."

He added that "nothing is impossible" when it came to a revised forecast before the next budget.

On Wednesday, the Australian Bureau of Statistics said gross domestic product expanded by 1.9 per cent in the three months to March 31, giving an annual rate of 5.0 per cent.

However, the government official warned that sustained economic growth depended on business investment, forecast by Mr. Willis to increase by 14.5 per cent in 1994-95.

It was not yet clear if the target in the 1994-95 budget for a 14.5 per cent lift in business investment would be met.

Jobless scourge set to dominate OECD talks

PARIS (R) — Ministers from 25 rich industrial nations will concentrate on the scourge of unemployment at the OECD annual meeting in Paris next week, pushing wider issues of world economic change into the background.

The Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the wealthy world's think-tank, will launch the two-day meeting Tuesday by submitting a report which urges the ministers to take tough and controversial steps to promote job growth.

Although no newcomer on such meetings' agendas, the jobless issue has acquired greater urgency as the years roll by.

Unemployment has become a running sore in the OECD's industrial and post-industrial economies since the end of 1980s and is set to reach a record 35 million this year.

"If this trend continues, not only will it heighten social and

political tension but it will also harm the economies," OECD Secretary-General Jean-Claude Paye told reporters Friday.

He said it was clear that macroeconomic policy, while a determining factor, was not the main cause of unemployment.

"We came to the conclusion that there has been an insufficient adaptation of the structure of our economies," he said.

Accordingly, the OECD's report urges a revamp of economic, labour and social policies that some of the governments which commissioned the report two years ago will find hard to swallow.

Pinpointing Europe for structural impediments which clog up its labour markets, the report proposed the dilution of minimum wage protection and steps to slash unemployment benefit costs.

Mr. Paye sees the United States, where the jobless rate is

six per cent compared with more than 11 per cent in Western Europe, as a model pupil of labour market flexibility.

But, making the point that spending power has dropped for so long that some 38 million Americans now live below the poverty line, he insists that social safety nets must stay.

The OECD hopes that the finance, trade and foreign affairs ministers at the meeting will give it a mandate to act as a "jobs doctor", prescribing country-by-country remedies.

The 50-page report lists a host of such measures, but the political challenge for the Paris-based forum now lies in deciding on the appropriate mix for each member country.

Such boldness from the OECD is not just rare, but a sign of the organisation's struggle to define a more active presence for itself in the management of the world economy.

Founded in 1960 as a successor to the postwar Marshall Plan for European Reconstruction, it has long been accused of being little more than a talking shop for the world's wealthy nations.

The OECD's future role is linked to a debate over who should lead the forum once Mr. Paye, who is French, ends his second five-year mandate in September.

Mr. Paye, with backing from Paris, has put in for a third term and Bonn is backing its top trade negotiator Lorenz Schomerus.

But many say it is time to root out the bureaucrats and wheel in some big shots to give the OECD political clout.

The United States and several other non-European members of the OECD are lobbying hard for the former president of Canada's Liberal Party, Donald Johnston, and Britain

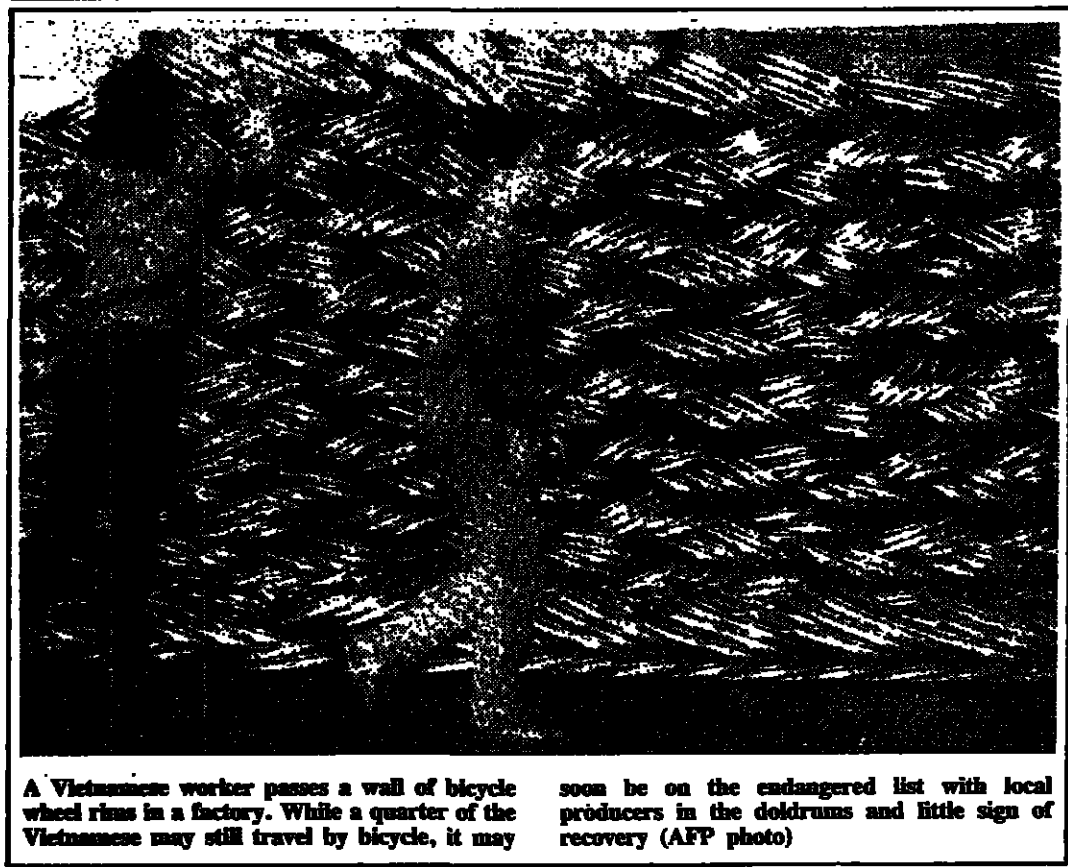
is plugging its former Conservative finance Minister, Nigel Lawson.

The issue of who should take the top job may be confined to horse-trading in the corridors next week with no final decision.

But it is linked to the soul-searching about the OECD's role in a world where once poverty-stricken countries are catching up with the rich states.

OECD countries still account for 75 per cent of the world's trade. But many up-and-coming economies enjoy higher income per head than some OECD members, like Portugal, Greece and Turkey.

Mexico last month became the first nation to join the group since New Zealand in 1973 and ministers are already paving the way for South Korea's membership by the end of 1996.



A Vietnamese worker passes a wall of bicycle wheels in a factory. While a quarter of the Vietnamese may still travel by bicycle, it may soon be on the endangered list with local producers in the doldrums and little sign of recovery (AFP photo)

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY JUNE 5, 1994

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Add new activities to present ones and you will be able to expand your horizons. Show others that you have a sense of humor. Your ideas are more intelligent and constructive but lack details.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) The morning is not a good time for discussions but the afternoon is fine and you can get good results then. Be wise to solve any situation.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Keep calm when a close family tie appears itching for a fight. Take time to improve home conditions early in the day.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) If a family member becomes irritable, keep silent and then conditions improve. Show that you are understanding about a friend's troubles.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Make sure to keep promises made to close ties. Study what repairs need to be made at home now and make sure they are completed.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Use tact when dealing with others and then you can easily put across your own ideas. Plan the future more intelligently and it will happen.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Be alert to opportunities coming your way at this time.

Sidestep one who is detrimental to your future progress and get everything done which has been put off.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Stay clear of an acquaintance who is too demanding and seek the company of congenials. Take no risks with your reputation of any kind.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Use tact in dealing with family members and maintain harmony at home. Do whatever will add to your prestige and you will be noticed.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Study new ideas that could bring you added income in the future. Follow the philosophy that is best for you in the days ahead.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) This is an ideal time to engage in your favourite hobby with congenials. Be sure to show thoughtfulness to others today.

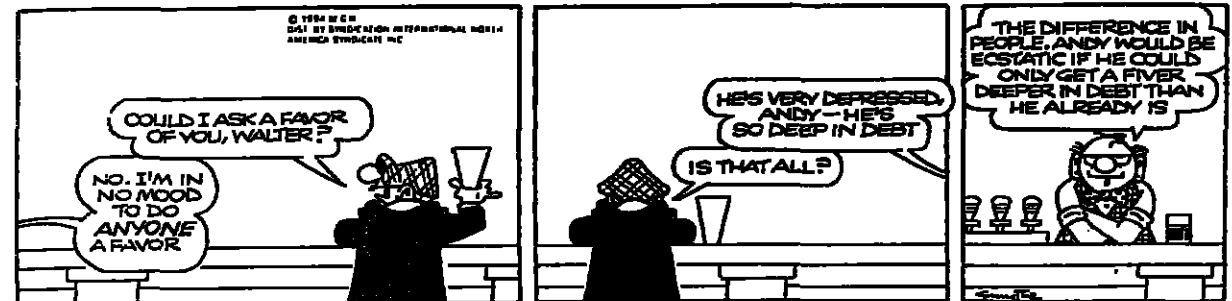
AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) A good day to study new ways to have added abundance in the days ahead. Make plans to improve your social life, especially with a close companion.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Try to please your friends today instead of worrying about personal affairs. Try to comprehend worldly matters better and you will succeed.

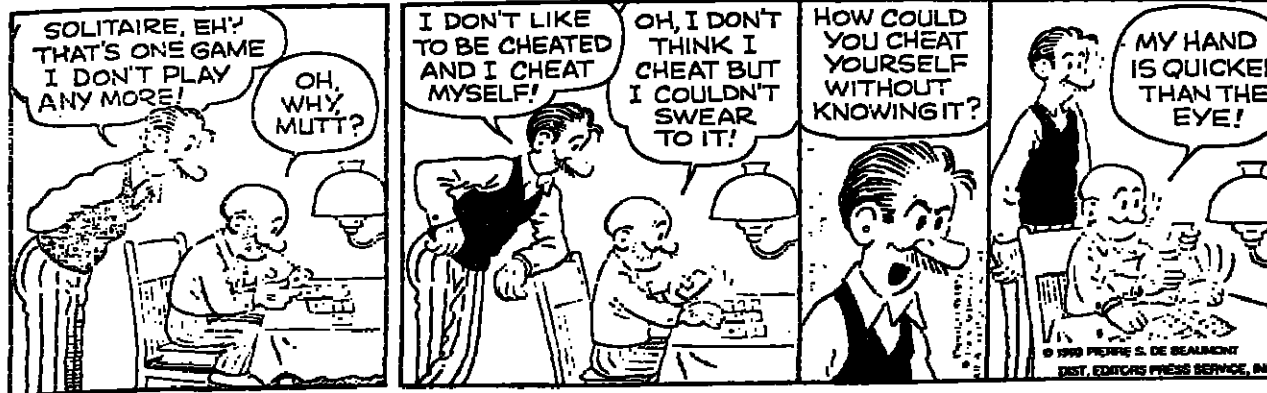
Peanuts



Andy Capp



Mutt'n'Jeff

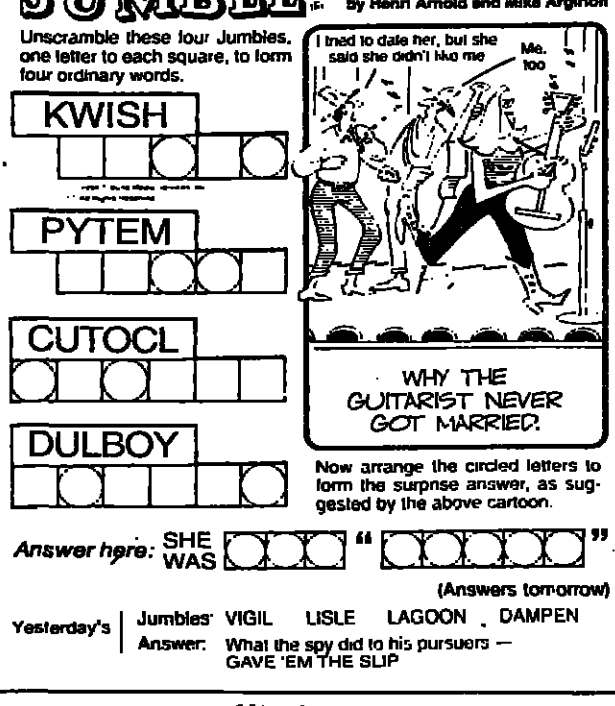


THE BETTER HALF

By Glasbergen



JUMBLE



THE Daily Crossword

by Don Johnson



Per 100

Other Currencies		Date: 4. 6. 1994
Currency	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.8400	1.8600
Lebanese Lira	0.000725	0.001950
Saudi Riyal	0.1665	0.1665
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.3200	2.3700
Qatari Riyal	0.1195	0.1909
Egyptian Pound	0.2050	0.2250
Omani Riyal	1.7970	1.8250
UAE Dirham	0.1898	0.1909
Greek Drachma	0.2645	0.3055
Cypriot Pound	1.5300	1.4325

Per 100

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● Superior Hotel Ser
Businessmen & Fam

NeGrEsCo

● Good Drinks
Excellent Snac
● Open Noons
& Evenings

TEL
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S M A R T ' Z
GALLERY RESTAURANT
INTERNATIONAL CUISINE

OPEN DAILY
8:00 TO MIDNIGHT

LUNCHES
AFTERNOON TEA
DRINKS AT THE BAR
DINNERS

Signature

SOLE IMPORTERS

STUDIO HAIG

Professional Quality in
1 Hour Service
Develop your colour film at
our shop and get:-

- **JUMBO photo**
size 30% larger
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Repair Services***

*Done by well trained and
Professional Technicians*



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Restaurant
You Know
Our Pizzas & Sandwiches
Now Try The
Italian Pasta
Milano Way
Spaghetti
Penne
Fettuccine
Prepared to your taste
instantly

Jabal Al Weibden/ Tel.63/101/63/102

SOCK CUMULATIVE
ANIMAN TEL. 815987

Sweden tel: 823891

Electrolux

For Values & Visions
See page 104

Rwanda rebels squeeze government

KIGALI (R) — Rebel forces squeezing Rwanda's interim government Saturday tightened the noose around the neck of its last southern hold-outs and a rebel leader said one million people may have been killed in two months of carnage.

U.N. sources said the capital's bombed-out airport was shelled again overnight Friday. But relief planes were able to land Saturday and the evacuation of some 30 wounded children will go ahead as planned.

The young victims, many with severe injuries, will be flown to Nairobi and then on to Paris.

U.N. officials confirmed Friday the Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF) Thursday overran the village of Kabagayi and a camp where tens of thousands of refugees were trapped in fear of slaughter by government troops and militiamen.

Kabagayi is five kilometres south of the town of Gitarama, 40 kilometres southwest of Kigali, and the headquarters of the interim government which fled the capital shortly after civil war and massacres started on April 6.

"Personally I believe Gitarama is a higher priority for the RPF than Kigali, they RPF say they can take it any time they want, but we will see," said U.N. military spokesman Jean Guy Plante.

The government is composed of members of the Hutu majority. The RPF, dominated by the Tutsi minority, has branded it "a clique of killers" and vowed to topple it.

The government has denied organising the mass slaughter of Tutsis and Hutu opponents of President Juvenal Habyarimana, whose killing in a rocket attack on his plane unleashed the bloodletting.

On Friday, the RPF's Radio Muhabura quoted its chairman Alexis Kanyangwe as saying nearly one million people had now perished in two months of civil war and tribal massacres. He gave the figures at a news conference for Italian and Australian reporters at rebel headquarters in northern Mulindi.

"The RPF chairman condemned the Rwandan leaders for promoting the killings through their preaches, newspapers and government-controlled radios. He estimated the people who have been killed so far in a period of only two months to be close to one million," the English-language radio report said.

Aid workers in Rwanda say an estimated 500,000 people, many of them members of the Tutsi minority in Rwanda, have been killed in the bloodletting.

U.N. officers said rebels

seized Kabagayi after government forces slipped away towards Gitarama. Most of the interim government left the town last Saturday for the western city of Kibuye.

The former Roman Catholic seminary at Kabagayi was the site of a sprawling refugee camp where aid workers reported the massacre of 500 seized refugees almost every night and killed them.

U.N. officials said they had no word on the fate of the estimated 38,000 refugees at Kabagayi, many of them Tutsis who lived in conditions almost as bad as a concentration camp.

But they were divided over whether the RPF, anxious to avoid taking casualties, would risk a big battle to knock out the government seat or would step up the assault on Kigali.

They said they could not rule out an army counterattack. The U.N. Assistance Mission in Rwanda (UNAMIR) demanded answers Friday from the RPF as to why its guerrillas fired on a U.N. convoy taking refugees towards Gitarama, forcing the operation to rescue civilians from Kigali to again be halted.

The RPF has captured two thirds of the country in eight weeks, forcing hundreds of thousands and perhaps millions of Hutus to flee the

southwest corner of the central African country.

Meanwhile, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has appealed for other aid agencies to come and help hundreds of thousands of people fleeing the rebel advance.

Phillip Gayard, chief ICRC delegate in the country, said other aid agencies should try and set up in the main southern towns of Butare, Kabagayi and Gitarama.

"There must be hundreds of thousands maybe millions of people in the southwest of Rwanda who need everything — food, water, sanitation. They only have what they could carry," he said.

Africa to offer troops

Meanwhile, a summit of 14 African states agreed Friday to offer troops for Rwanda and provide other aid to halt its civil strife that has killed 500,000 people, conference chairman Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe said.

Mr. Mugabe, interrupting a session of two-day economic talks by African leaders in Zimbabwe, said the 14 leaders had agreed a statement to be issued Friday night condemning the "genocide" in Rwanda and calling for an immediate end to hostilities and observance of a truce.

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The bodies of earthquake and tidal wave victims scattered outside a community centre after an earthquake measuring 5.9 on the Richter scale triggered tidal waves in the East Java city of Banyuwangi (AFP photo)

Mass aftershocks trigger fresh killer wave alert in Indonesia

JAKARTA (R) — More than 400 earthquake aftershocks have hit an already devastated area of East Java, triggering fears of more killer tidal waves.

On neighbouring Bali, local officials were reported to be monitoring the possibility of tidal waves hitting the resort island's beaches.

More than 200 people were reported killed or missing in East Java Saturday, nearly 40 hours after up to 12 tidal waves pounded towns and villages following a big earthquake.

"We have recorded over 400 aftershocks. They could cause more tidal waves, although they would probably not be as big," an official of the Jakarta Geophysical Agency told Reuters.

The Jakarta, Geophysical Agency, told Reuters it had no record of a new quake.

Antara, quoting geophysical officials in Bali, said the quake's epicentre was 61 kilometres southwest of Denpasar, Bali's capital.

A senior government official, quoted by Antara, urged people already affected by Friday's disaster to prepare for the "strong possibility" more tidal waves.

"Also, there is a big possibility that the tidal waves which struck East Java yesterday also hit Bali's beaches," a geophysical official, Djumadi, was quoted by Antara as saying.

Police and official media reports said at least 172 bodies had been found in East Java, while 47 people were missing.

At least 630 homes were destroyed in the initial quake and tidal waves, which struck when most people were sleeping. About 260 vessels, mainly fishing boats, were missing.

The killer waves pounded a remote and sparsely-populated area in the southeastern corner of Java. They followed a quake measuring 5.9 on the Richter Scale at 1.0 a.m. on Friday (1800 GMT Thursday). Its epicentre was beneath the Indian Ocean.

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Despite the ban, 51 foreign participants, mostly little known peace activists, managed to slip by immigration agents.

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Children buy used syringes as toys in China

BEIJING (R) — Chinese children are being sold used disposable syringes to use as water pistols in a medical nightmare that risks spreading diseases such as hepatitis and AIDS, the official Farmer's Daily said Friday. The Medicine Inspection Institute and other official organisations in Zaoyang City, Hubei province, have cracked down on the used-syringe trade and confiscated 10,000 dirty needles from businessmen, it said. "Private businessmen bought these polluted syringes at seven fen (less than one U.S. cent) each and sold them to schoolchildren as toys at 20-40 fen (2.5-4.5 cents) each," the newspaper said.

"Schoolchildren would use the syringes as water guns, sprinkling water on each other, or make them into pencils," it said. The newspaper urged greater attention to the problem of used syringes, which can carry deadly viruses. "They must be destroyed according to the rules and regulations, but some medical units have failed to destroy them," the newspaper said. "This type of polluted syringe is being sold at the gates of many rural schools," the Farmer's Daily said, urging parents and teachers to tell children not to play with them.

Moscow clamps down on sales of pornography

MOSCOW (R) — Moscow authorities have banned the sale of "erotic material" in the capital's streets in a bid to stop pornography getting into children's hands, a senior city official said Friday. Vladimir Petukhov, deputy head of the city administration's press committee which drafted the new law clamping down on the sale of pornography, said from now on adult publications could only be sold in special designated shops. "The city council decided that the sale of these kinds of publications should be regulated as it is in other places in the world. The sale will be controlled — there is no ban on distribution," he said in a telephone interview.

"You know as well as I do that this kind of stuff is sold close to schools and other educational establishments. The city does not control this in any way at the moment." The law bans the sale of pornography in the streets, at underground and railway stations, pedestrian walkways and many other open spaces. It forbids the sale of pornography both to and by those under 16. Russians, in public at least, have always a somewhat prudish attitude to sexual matters and pornography was almost unknown in the former Soviet Union until the late 1980s. But trade in pornography is now highly profitable and it is virtually impossible to escape sellers of explicit magazines in the centre of the city.

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Serbs meet conditions for Bosnian talks — U.N.

SARAJEVO (R) — U.N. peacekeeping troops in Gorazde said Serbs have either withdrawn from an exclusion zone around the town or surrendered their arms, enabling ceasefire talks in Geneva to proceed, a U.N. source said in Sarajevo.

The Duke of Wellingtons (British peacekeepers) are very happy the talks can be saved," said the source, referring to the withdrawal of Serbs prior to a 2 p.m. (1200 GMT) Saturday deadline after which the Geneva ceasefire talks were set to be scrapped.

The U.N. source, speaking at about 1.45 p.m. (1145 GMT), said all armed Serbs had either left the zone or had surrendered their weapons and that the area in question, on the east bank of the Drina River within three kilometres of Gorazde town, was now completely under U.N. control.

U.N. special envoy Yasushi Akashi had set the deadline

after Serbs continued to refuse to withdraw from the U.N.-mandated exclusion zone.

It remains to be seen whether Bosnia's Muslim-led government will accept U.N. word of the pullout or will require that its representatives visit the zone to see for themselves.

Bosnia's government has refused to join the U.N.-sponsored ceasefire talks in Geneva for the past two days because of the Serbs' failure to pull back from the Gorazde zone.

Diplomats in Geneva said Bosnian leaders started a parallel closed-door session with major powers at the French mission in Geneva to discuss political matters and future territorial division of Bosnia.

The U.N. Protection Force (UNPROFOR) spokesman in Sarajevo, Major Rob Amink, told reporters Saturday, minutes before the Bosnia-wide ceasefire talks were due to start, that Serbs were still with-

in the Gorazde three kilometres exclusion zone.

But on a positive note Maj. Amink said: "It appears the Serb withdrawal of armed civilians... has begun."

Canadian U.N. peacekeepers deployed into Gorazde Friday night with 62 men and seven armoured personnel carriers.

"As of first light this morning UNPROFOR is patrolling known (Serb) positions."

Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic said the situation around Gorazde would be resolved when the Canadian troops took over from what he called "armed Serb civilians" protecting Serb homes inside the exclusion zone.

After an urgent meeting in Geneva with Mr. Karadzic and his military chief General Ratko Mladic, Yasushi Akashi, the top U.N. official in former Yugoslavia, was waiting for another report from Gorazde before making a final decision. His spokesman Michael Wil-

liams told reporters that UNPROFOR Bosnia commander Lieutenant-General Sir Michael Rose had spoken to the U.N. commander in Gorazde and had been told that 20 armed Serbs still remained in the zone.

DAY, JUNE 5, 1994
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Sports

JORDAN TIMES, SUNDAY, JUNE 5, 1994

NEWS IN BRIEF

Wendlinger emerges from coma

HINWIL, Switzerland (AFP) — Austrian driver Karl Wendlinger has regained consciousness after more than three weeks in a coma since crashing during practice for the Monaco Grand Prix May 12. Wendlinger has been able to talk with relatives and has even begun to read magazines in hospital at Nice, his Sauber Mercedes team announced here Saturday. The Austrian, whose condition is improving daily, is to be repatriated next week to Innsbruck's university hospital.

UEFA fines AC Milan 140,000 francs

ZURICH, Switzerland (AP) — UEFA Friday fined European champions AC Milan a total of 140,000 Swiss francs (\$100,000) for rule violations during the season-long competition. UEFA's control and disciplinary commission ordered the Italian club to pay a total 130,000 francs (\$92,000) because its fans hurled fireworks and other objects on to the field during the final against FC Barcelona and the semifinal against AS Monaco. It handed down an additional fine of 10,000 francs (\$7,000) to punish the team for behaviour during the May 18 final in the Greek capital of Athens. Milan, which is owned by Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi, won its fifth champions cup title by beating Barcelona 4-0.

S. Africans want to be 1st again

GENEVA, Switzerland (AFP) — South Africa wants to stage its Formula One grand prix again next March in its traditional place as the opening event of the world championship season. "Our grand prix is already listed as the first reserve race on the provisional 1995 calendar," said South African Automobile Association spokesman Peter Elliott here Friday. Elliott and Prince Thumbumuzi-Dlamini are leading the South African delegation to the general assembly of FIA, the sport's ruling body.

Jordan struggles at the bat

BIRMINGHAM, Alabama (AFP) — Retired basketball star Michael Jordan, once among the top hitters in his league, now struggles to keep a .200 average in his new sport, baseball. Jordan dipped to a season-low .198 at the plate before a 1-for-4 performance here in front of National Basketball Association (NBA) pal Charles Barkley. Barkley has spent the week with Jordan while pondering whether or not to retire himself. Jordan had a 13-game hitting streak and a .327 batting average with the Birmingham Barons of the Class AA Southern League. But as he faces pitchers for the second and third times, they have learned to solve him by hurling curves and off-speed pitches instead of fastballs. Jordan, who guided the Chicago Bulls to three straight NBA crowns, quit to try and make the major leagues in the Chicago White Sox organisation.

Bulgarian soccer chief resigns

SOFIA, Bulgaria (AP) — The president of Bulgarian Soccer Federation offered his resignation Friday, after a row about the size of the bonuses he had promised to the World Cup team. Valentin Mihov, who was to head the Bulgarian delegation to the World Cup in the United States later this month, promised each player \$100,000 if the team makes it to the finals. But other members of the Bulgarian federation challenged him on grounds that the sum was unrealistically high, and that the federation could not hope to raise that kind of money.

Pantani takes 14th stage

MERANO, Italy (AFP) — Italy's Marco Pantani broke away on the final climb to win the 14th stage of the Tour of Italy by 40 seconds here Saturday. But Russian Evgeni Berzin retained the overall leader's pink jersey. Pantani, 24, beat out the more illustrious compatriots, Gianni Bugno and Claudio Chiappucci into second and third places. Pantani made his break, with 45 kilometres to go on the fifth and final climb of this 235km stage, for his first stage win in the Giro. And on the descent, he overtook Switzerland's Pascal Richard, the last rider of a long breakaway.

Jorge takes over at Benfica

LISBON (AFP) — Artur Jorge, who guided Paris St. Germain to the French championship, will coach Portuguese champions Benfica next season. The move was widely expected, but was confirmed for the first time by Benfica President Manuel Damascio in Saturday's edition of Bola newspaper. Portuguese gave PSG their most successful season, with only their second French title and a place in the semi-finals of the European Cup Winners Cup, where they were outgunned by Arsenal. But PSG's top officials opted to appoint a Frenchman, Luis Fernandez, for the coming season.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & YANNAN HUSCH
Treasure House Services, Inc.

KEEP YOUR COOL

Neither vulnerable. East deals.
NORTH
♠ K 10 3 2
♥ 8 6 5
♦ 9 7
♣ J 9 4
WEST
♠ 9 8 7 4
♥ A 8
♦ A K 10
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The bidding:
East 2♣ South West North
East 2♣ Pass 3♣
Dbl 2♣ 3♣
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Opening lead: Five of
It's only natural that you should get upset when a play you make costs your side a trick. But good players shake off the disappointment and get to work seeing if the trick can be retrieved.
This hand was dealt in the Gold-mast Pairs at the recent Eastern States Regional. South's two clubs showed either a diamond one-suiter or a major-minor two-suiter (clearly the red suits as the auction devel-

Emirates-trained filly wins Epsom Oaks classic

EPSOM, England (R) — Balanchine, ridden by Frankie Dettori, became the first horse trained in the United Arab Emirates to win an English classic Saturday.

The filly, a 6-1 chance, also provided Dettori with his first success in an English classic, battling through driving rain to capture the Epsom Oaks by two and half lengths from wind in Her Hair (7-1), ridden by Richard Hills.

Hawajiss (9-1), partnered by Walter Swinburn, finished third another one and a quarter lengths away in third place.

Balanchine, beaten a nostril in the 1,000 Guineas, amply compensated connections with a first prize of \$221,000. Balanchine, ridden by Willie Carson, started 2-1 favourite, but after pulling strongly early on failed to produce her best and trailed home seventh of the 10 runners.

Carson had been hoping for

a rare double after winning Wednesday's Derby on Erhaab over the same course and 2.4 km distance.

Balanchine's victory continued the remarkable record of the Maktoum family who, between them, have scooped seven of the last nine runnings of the English Oaks.

Balanchine was bought by Sheikh Mohammad from Robert Sangster last year and is now officially trained in Dubai by Hilal Ibrahim. She raced Saturday in brother Maktoum Al Maktoum's colours, but it was a victory shared by all the family.

With the going changed to good to soft minutes before the race, it became a slog, but Dettori kept his filly in front all the way up the 700 metres straight and punched the air in delight when they passed the post.

Motor racing council confirms safety measures

GENEVA (AP) — World motor racing's ruling council Friday confirmed new safety measures aimed at increasing driver protection and cutting speeds in the wake of two deadly accidents that have stunned the sport.

The general assembly of the under-fire International Automobile Federation, FIA, said it would go ahead with plans to raise weight limits and introduce new fuel requirements and engine power restrictions with effect from the Canadian Grand Prix, June 12.

There already has been opposition from some teams to measures introduced by FIA in the wake of the deaths of drivers Ayrton Senna and Roland Ratzenberger.

FIA hopes the controversy will go away while keeping all involved, drivers, teams, constructors, satisfied over the safety vs. performance debate.

The measures agreed unanimously by the 78-strong general assembly, were largely expected.

FIA President Max Mosley told a news conference that headrests must be modified slightly before Montreal to give better shock absorption behind the drivers' head and to cut the risk of the front wheel making contact with the head.

Most fatalities over the years have been as a result of head injuries.

Mosley tried to gloss over the differences that have raged between FIA and the teams since the deaths of world champion Senna and Austrian driver Ratzenberger at the May 1 San Marino Grand Prix at Imola, Italy.

"The general atmosphere of the teams is very positive," he said. "They recognise that what we're doing is necessary."

"We had 13 years with no fatalities, then suddenly we had this extraordinary succession of accidents. It's always distressing when change is forced by accidents."

Mosley added that racing authorities had "some fairly precise ideas" about what caused the Senna accident but it was still too early to draw final conclusions.

World Cup fever remains slow in spreading across the United States just two weeks before the opening of the 24-team global football championship tournament.

Mexican supporters will outnumber U.S. fans when the host team were to play their final tuneup game Saturday in Pasadena, site of the July 17 final.

Boston organisers enlisted children as a major part of a World Cup rally Friday, hoping their parents would help boost disastrously low hotel bookings. Instead, they stared blankly when asked if they had ever heard of Pele.

Boston hotel owners also have blank stares. Only 40,000 rooms have been booked for World Cup, compared to the 220,000 expected when they

spent \$180,000 as part of a host city bid.

In Dallas, a Nigerian group was seeking the removal of the police chief of the suburban city where their homeland's team is based, citing racial slurs the law officer made.

All in all, it's confused state of events as teams begin to arrive.

The U.S. team submitted its final roster three hours before Friday's deadline, the last of the 24 teams to complete plans. About 60,000 fans were expected at the Rose Bowl for Saturday's exhibition, most of them rooting for Mexico.

Rain stops final of French Open

PARIS (AFP) — The women's singles final at the French Open between Spain's Arantxa Sanchez and Mary Pierce of France, which began in a steady drizzle nearly five hours behind schedule, was stopped after just three games because of renewed rain here Saturday.

The scores were 2-1 to Pierce in the first set with Sanchez serving and having an advantage against her.

The players had been on court for 17 minutes.

'Capriati re-introduced acquaintance to drugs'

MIAMI (AP) — An attorney contended Friday that tennis star Jennifer Capriati bought drugs for his client and seduced him into becoming a drug user again after he had come clean.

Ellis Rubin, a well-known Miami attorney who is running for the U.S. Senate, said he would sue Capriati and her lawyer next week on behalf of Nathan Wilson, an 18-year-old who met Capriati through a mutual friend who had been at a drug treatment programme with them.

"That's when Jennifer decided that Nathan would be a good person to supply her with cocaine," Rubin said at a news conference in his law offices.

Capriati "induced Nathan to forget about the drug rehab programme he had just completed and was straight... (and) seduced him into using," said Rubin.

That allegation will form the basis for a \$9 million civil lawsuit Rubin said he will file

looks, spent his first weeks in Riyadh in a hotel room, having been denied access to his players who were observing a mandatory fasting period.

He used the time to watch videos of the group qualifiers and plot strategy for what will be the Saudis' first World Cup finals.

Solari, who last October signed an overweight Diego Maradona for Argentine club Newell's Old Boys, still finds himself worrying about his players' waistlines.

"Saudi players struggle to maintain the ideal weight as their tables overflow with fantastic food," said Eduardo, also a former first division player and qualified coach with considerable Argentine league experience.

"You even find food in hotel lifts. We can only suggest that the boys do everything in moderation until the World Cup."

Saudi Arabia's players, the first squad to arrive in the United States for the finals starting June 17, know their

boss means business.

Solari, 52, took over from Dutch coach Leo Beenhakker, who was allegedly sacked after players complained of being overworked.

The Argentine, known as a stern coach with a short fuse, staged 55 training sessions in just 45 days.

He also videotapes every training session so as to leave future Saudi coaches a legacy showing how things are done.

Despite the cultural differences, the Solari camp feels the assimilation process with the Saudis will pave the way for further understanding on and off the field.

"There is a huge Gulf but we knew success would depend upon us getting used to their ways," Eduardo said. "We hope to complement the players' ambition with the experience we've all gained in Argentina."

Knicks hold off Pacers to force seventh game

INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana (R) — This time the New York Knicks bent but did not quite break in the fourth quarter as they held off the Indiana Pacers 98-91 Friday to force a deciding seventh game in the Eastern Conference finals.

Derek Harper nailed a 15-foot jumper with 1:45 remaining to give New York the lead for good and made a big steal in the final 30 seconds, and John Starks broke out of a series-long slump by scoring 26 points, hitting 5-of-6 from 3-point range.

The Knicks, who crumbled at home Wednesday under Reggie Miller's 25-point fourth-quarter onslaught, will host game seven at Madison Square Garden Sunday. The winner will face the Rockets in the finals starting Wednesday in Houston.

"It's going to be a big task," said Starks. "But we did the right thing in getting this first win. This was very important. We just wanted to get it back to the garden."

Miller scored 27 points, 12 in the fourth quarter, as the Pacers, trying to advance to the NBA finals for the first time in their history, suffered their first home loss in seven games in this year's playoffs.

"We treated it like it was the seventh game of a championship," said Starks. "We

came out very well throughout the game and sustained our defensive intensity."

The Knicks snapped a five-game road losing streak in this year's playoffs and won for only the second time in eight games away from home in the postseason.

The Knicks, who squandered a 12-point fourth-quarter lead in game five, led 80-69 going into the final period, but just as they had in game five they began sputtering on offense, allowing a 22-11 game-tying Indiana run.

After New York's eighth turnover of the quarter, Indiana caught the Knicks at 91-91 with 2:05 to go — the first tie since it was 35-35 early in the second quarter of a game in which the Pacers never led.

Miller made 1-of-2 free throws for the tie.

But then Harper made his jumper from the foul line and Miller turned the ball over.

Starks, fouled on a breakaway, converted two free throws to make it 94-91 and Derek McKey missed a 3-pointer at the 24-second buzzer.

After some more helter-skelter play by both teams, Harper stripped Vern Fleming and was fouled with 25 seconds remaining. Harper made one of his free throws to push the New York lead to 95-91.

After Fleming missed a pointer, Anthony Mason made two free throws, stole the inbounds pass and converted another foul shot for the final score.

"We just stayed together as a team," Starks, who finished with a game-high six assists, said of the Knicks' effort down the stretch. "They missed a couple of shots but we did it done down at the end."

Patrick Ewing added 17 points and 10 rebounds for New York, while Charles O'Leary contributed 14 points and nine rebounds.

Rik Smits scored 18 points for Indiana, Fleming finished with 12 and Antonio Davis had 11 points and nine rebounds.

The Knicks, who led by as many as 13 points late in the third quarter at 80-67, were up 33-31 after the first quarter and 58-51 at the half.

New York made eight of its first 11 shots from the field in taking a 22-11 lead. Starks scored 11 points in the opening quarter, hitting all three of his 3-point attempts.

The Knicks are seeking their first appearance in the NBA finals since 1973, when they beat the Los Angeles Lakers in five games.

The home team has won 16 straight NBA playoff game sevens.

Canada, Australia advance in world basketball championship

HOBART, Australia (AP) — Andrea Blackwell scored eight of her 17 points in the last five minutes Saturday as Canada surprised France 66-55 in Adelaide to clinch a quarterfinal berth in the women's world basketball championships.

The win gave Canada the second qualifying spot in Group B, behind unbeaten

Cuba, which improved to 3-0 with a 122-51 victory over Kenya.

Host nation Australia, which needed to defeat Italy by 13 points or more to be certain of advancing from Group D, downed the Italians 73-51 at also progress.

Guard Michele Timms hit a

game-high 29 points and forward Rachael Sporn had 12 as the Australians clinched their quarterfinal berth.

The Canadians and Australians both finished first-round play with a 2-1 record and joined Cuba, Slovakia and the defending champion United States in the last eight. Those three teams all are unbeaten.

An Argentine tries his luck in Saudi Arabia

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Saudi Arabia's Argentine coach Jorge Solari, flanked by his brother, son and two translators, has seen his World Cup plans dogged by prayer sessions and players with eyes bigger than their stomachs.

Solari, appointed by King Fahd in March on the personal recommendation of Argentina's President Carlos Menem, has to work his schedule around strict Muslim ritual.

"We start training at 9.45 am after the second round of prayers and finish at midday moments before the next session. We can only start up again at 4.30 p.m.," Solari's brother Eduardo told the Argentine sports magazine El Grafico this week.

"It's tough. We can't afford to be a second late as they're very strict religiously," he said.

"There's even some sort of special police force which checks players are praying at the right time."

Solari, nicknamed Indio in Argentina for his indigenous

looks, spent his first weeks in Riyadh in a hotel room, having been denied access to his players who were observing a mandatory fasting period.

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TODAY	Cinema Tel.: 634144	Cinema Tel.: 699238	Cinema Tel.: 677420	Cinema Tel.: 618274 - 618275	Cinema Tel.: 675571	Nabil & Hisham's Tel.: 625155
	PHILADELPHIA	PLAZA	CONCORD	AMMOUN THEATRE	Nabil Al Mashini Theatre	AHLAN THEATRE
	Tom Cruise & Holly Hunter in The Firm Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 9:00	1) Life After Marriage Shows: 12:30, 3:15, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30 2) ALADDIN Shows: 2:00, 5:00	CONCORD '1' FX - 2 CONCORD '2' THE GETAWAY Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30	Soon the new play !!!	Today & Everyday Abu Awwad in social comedy: "PUNCTURED BAG"	The political comedy play: "WHAT A PEACE!" (Al Salam Ya Salam) At: 8:30 p.m. For reservations please call 625155

NEWS IN BRIEF

Iran to mediate between Afghan Shi'ite rivals

KABUL (AFP) — Iran's deputy foreign minister, Alaeddin Broujerdi, is to mediate while here between rival groups within the Afghan Shi'ite faction Hezb-e-Wahdat, party sources said Saturday. A Foreign Ministry official here said Mr. Broujerdi arrived Friday for a five-day visit that will include meetings with Afghan leaders. Mr. Broujerdi came amid an ongoing leadership dispute in Wahdat between incumbent Ali Mazari and his challenger Akbar Azimi, a former member of the party's central committee. Sources in the Iranian-backed faction said the row, which triggered fighting between supporters of the two men late last month, had caused one indefinite postponement of plans to hold party elections. Wahdat is loosely linked with an alliance fighting to overthrow Afghan President Burhanuddin Rabbani, which is backed up mainly by Prime Minister Gulbuddin Hekmatyar's Hezb-e-Islami and forces of the Uzbek warlord General Abdul Rashid Dostum. Iran, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia have frequently urged the warring Afghan factions to settle their differences to end the five months of fighting that has left more than 2,500 dead and at least 17,000 injured.

Kuwait's Sheikhha Mariam dies in London hospital

KUWAIT (R) — Sheikhha Mariam, eldest daughter of Kuwaiti Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah, died in a London hospital early on Saturday, the official Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) reported. Sheikhha Mariam, 44, had been on a life-support machine at London's Guy's hospital where she had been taken after suffering severe head injuries in a Kuwait car accident last week.

Iranian denies charge of bombing attempt

BANGKOK (AP) — An Iranian arrested by Thai police has denied involvement in an aborted bomb attack in Bangkok. A Thai newspaper reported Saturday. The man, identified by police as Hossein Shahriarfar, 28, was arrested Friday in southern Thailand. Two other Iranians were held for questioning with him but later released, police said. Police said Mr. Shahriarfar was one of three men responsible for rigging up a one-tonne truck bomb for a suspected attack on the Israeli embassy in March. The truck got into an accident with a motorcycle taxi and the driver abandoned it before any attack took place. Police defused the bomb. "I am not a terrorist. I am a businessman. There must be some big mistake," the Thai newspaper quoted Mr. Shahriarfar as saying Friday after he was flown to Bangkok. National Police chief Pratin Santiprapob said witnesses including the motorcycle driver identified Mr. Shahriarfar as the driver of the truck.

U.N. to compensate Egyptian victims of war

CAIRO (AP) — More than three years after the Gulf war ended, the United Nations has agreed to pay \$1.5 million to compensate about 600 Egyptians who lost family members or were disabled in the war. The Foreign Ministry said Saturday a letter from the U.N. compensation committee promised to pay \$2,500 for each valid claim within six months. The committee, formed by the Security Council to adjudicate claims, set the level of compensation. Ministry official Jilan Alam said the U.N. decision will not address claims of an estimated 670,000 Egyptian workers who fled Iraq and Kuwait during the seven months Iraq occupied the emirate. An international coalition expelled Iraqi troops on Feb. 26, 1991. The committee's approval came in response to Foreign Minister Amr Musa's complaint that the committee was taking too long to meet its commitments, Mr. Alam said.

India carries out missile test

NEW DELHI (AFP) — India carried out controversial tests of its home-built short-range missile, the Prithvi, on Saturday in defiance of intense U.S. pressure to scrap its missile programme. The tests conducted by the army were part of the first "user-trial" of the missile, which has a range of 250 kilometres and were intended to test its reach and accuracy ahead of possible deployment. "The user-trials of the Prithvi surface-to-surface missile commenced today," Defence Ministry spokesman said. "These first tests in the series have fully met the requirements." Prithvi (earth) streaked into the sky at 11:40 a.m. (0610 GMT) from the Chandipur-on-Sea interim test range in the eastern coastal state of Orissa, the Press Trust of India said. More trials will be held in "battle-field conditions" in other parts of the country using conventional warheads, the news agency said, citing unnamed defence ministry sources speaking from the launch site.

Dalai Lama receives Four Freedoms Prize

MIDDELBURG, The Netherlands (AFP) — Tibet's spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama, received the Roosevelt Institute's Four Freedoms Prize here Saturday at an official ceremony attended by Princess Juliana, mother of Queen Beatrix. The Dalai Lama, on a three-day visit, received the award from the grandson of the late U.S. president, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Christopher Roosevelt. The prize is named after the former U.S. leader, who in a 1941 speech named four freedoms: Freedom of expression, freedom of religious observance, freedom from fear and freedom to fight poverty. The Roosevelt family originated from the Middelburg region of central Holland. The prize is awarded alternatively in New York and Middelburg.

Warrant out for Bangladesh feminist writer

DHAKA (AFP) — The Bangladesh government Saturday issued an arrest warrant against controversial feminist writer Taslima Nasreen, United Nations of Bangladesh news agency reported. Ms. Nasreen, 32, drew fire after being quoted as saying in a newspaper interview that the Holy Koran should be rewritten. She denied making the comments but has become the centre of attacks by fundamentalist groups. The chief metropolitan magistrate, Shahiduddin Ahmad, issued a warrant for "intent to deliberately and maliciously outrage the religious feelings of Muslims." The warrant came one day after 3,000 fundamentalists fought police demanding Ms. Nasreen's punishment. The ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party's youth wing has also demanded her punishment. Ms. Nasreen achieved notoriety after the government banned her book "Lajja" (Shame). It said the book was blasphemous and hurt Islamic sentiments.

100 fundamentalists arrested in S. Yemen

ADEN (AFP) — Authorities in southern Yemen have arrested more than 100 members of the Islamic fundamentalist group Jihad which supports President Ali Abdullah Saleh, an official here said Saturday. Abdul Rahman Al Jifri, appointed vice president of a breakaway southern state, described Jihad members as a "fifth column." The arrests started two weeks ago, he said, adding that arms and communication equipment were seized. The arrested fundamentalists were in prison awaiting trial under military law.

Dr. Luma Shawa
Member of the Royal College
of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists
of Britain
announces the opening of her
obstetrics, gynaecology and fetal medi-
cine clinic at:
81 Ibn Khaldoun St.
(Al Khaldi Hospital St.)
Tel. 619530

Doctors
stop work
for 2 hours

By Ica Wabbbeh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Around 2,000 doctors at Ministry of Health hospitals stopped work for two hours on Saturday in protest over salary "discrepancies" among themselves and colleagues in other medical sectors in the country addressed.

Jordan Medical Association President Ishaq Maraqa said the move was not prompted by the "desire to have their salaries increased over other government employees but rather for justice."

"Doctors have decided to express their unacceptance of this unjustifiable situation by stopping work for two hours, just as a signal of the seriousness of the situation and to show that they are not able to tolerate this discrimination in salaries and other non-financial privileges any more," Dr. Maraqa told the Jordan Times.

The action is not new, he said, as for the past four years the doctors have been trying in vain to "guarantee justification of this unacceptable status."

"This has created a feeling of uneasiness amongst the Ministry of Health doctors. We are looking forward to the meeting on Sunday (today) with the deputy prime minister, Dr. Maan Abu Nowar, and the minister of health, Dr. Abdul Rahim Malhas, to discuss the matter seriously and hope to reach a decision that will ease the tension among doctors," Dr. Maraqa said.

While expressing "certainty that the government is greatly concerned with the injustice the doctors are living," Dr. Maraqa said that "we feel they (the government) should and are able to secure financial resources for it."

"They (the doctors) are the only ministry employees who are suffering from discrimination in salaries amongst themselves and their colleagues and we feel that if the government decides to find a solution for this chronic problem, the time is very suitable for it," he said. The reason behind the doctor's optimism is the fact that Prime Minister Majali is familiar with the problem since he served as a minister of health years ago, headed the Jordan University and was responsible for medical affairs, besides being the head of the (now defunct) National Medical Association.

Some doctors say two hours of work stoppage might not make a big difference to the patients, especially as they had pledged to treat emergencies, but if their demands will not be met and they decide to stop work for a day or longer, the results could have serious repercussions.

List of demands

The doctors are demanding salaries equivalent to those of physicians working at the University of Jordan Hospital and military hospitals in the Kingdom.

A list of demands and organisational matters provided to the Jordan Times mentions "improvement of the financial situation of the Ministry of Health doctors that would enable them to lead a dignified life and would prevent good doctors from leaving government hospitals."

It also emphasises the need to hire good specialists at these hospitals in order to improve health services and maintain a standard comparable to that of the other medical institutions.

The demands sparked a strike about two years ago and continue to be an issue over a two-tier system of granting allowances, putting the doctors into the category of "before 1988" and after.

According to the paediatrician, doctors who started work before 1988 are given 35 per cent of the "overall" salary as allowance while those who started work after 1988 are granted 30 per cent of the "basic salary allowance. This creates a gap between the doctors working for the same institution and has, as a result, made the doctors to seek for the cancellation or improvement of the system.

According to a study presented in 1991 by the then minister of health, Mamdouh Al Abbadi, to the prime minister, the gap is even bigger between the pay received by the ministry's doctors and those working at military or university hospitals, reaching (at the time) 43 per cent in the case of a specialist and 38 per cent in that of a general practitioner.



QUEEN MOTHER REMEMBERED: Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor, Their Royal Highnesses Prince Mohammad, Crown Prince Hassan, Princess Sarvath and Princess Basma on Saturday attend a ceremony held to mark the elapse of 40 days after the death of Queen Zein Al Sharaaf, the Queen Mother (Photo by Youssef Al 'Allan)

Germans, French honour each other's war dead

Combined agency despatches

GERMAN AND allied veterans honoured each others' war dead on Saturday in gestures of reconciliation and remembrance two days before the 50th anniversary of the D-Day allied landings in Normandy.

The president of the German War Graves Commission, Hans Otto Weber, laid wreaths of red carnations with the red, black and gold German colours at U.S. and British military cemeteries near the beaches where allied forces stormed ashore on June 6, 1944, to drive Nazi German armies out of Western Europe.

Representatives of the French government, the Royal British Legion and the Commonwealth War Graves Commission participated in a memorial ceremony at the biggest German military cemetery in Normandy, at La Cambe, where 21,222 men are buried. "I asked for permission to pay homage at the American and British cemeteries and I was told that I was welcome of course," Mr. Weber said.

"We believe that the dead are all brothers and nationality does not matter. There are no good guys and bad guys, nazis and democrats among the dead," he said.

Graham Downing, vice-chairman of the British Legion, said he had willingly

accepted the last-minute invitation to speak at the German ceremony.

"I was honoured. It has been very moving for me. We believe in reconciliation, but not in forgetting," he said.

The gestures of reconciliation came as allied leaders gathered in Britain, in the absence of German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, for three days of ceremonies honouring the soldiers who fought and died in the world's greatest amphibious invasion.

In Cambridge, England, U.S. President Bill Clinton hailed the days when "Yanks and Brits worked together like family."

Mr. Clinton, French President Mitterrand and other allied leaders were due to attend a banquet given by Queen Elizabeth on Saturday in Portsmouth before the leaders set sail for France on Sunday in a flotilla of ships recalling the D-Day fleet.

"We have come here on a journey of remembrance... it is a journey to honour those who fought and those who died, in a world in which we came of age," Mr. Clinton told a crowd of around 15,000 people at the U.S. military cemetery.

Standing on the green bank which is the Cambridge American Cemetery and Memorial at Madingley, around 100 kilometres north of London,

Mr. Clinton said: "The British gave us inspiration, the Americans in return gave hope."

"They fought to defeat a great evil which threatened to destroy our very way of life, what Winston Churchill called the great principles of freedom and the rights of man, which are the joint inheritance of the English speaking world."

Before Mr. Clinton took the podium, British Prime Minister John Major and U.S. Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen, who is a former pilot, also paid tribute to those who gave their lives.

"It is the brotherhood of soldier to soldier, sailor to sailor and airman to airman that we commemorate here," Mr. Major said.

"They came to defend freedom and democracy, justice and human rights. The peoples of Europe owe their freedom and peace to those we honour this weekend, both the living and the fallen."

On Omaha Beach in Normandy, allied soldiers were lashed by driving rain as they rehearsed for Monday's main international commemoration to be attended by 19 national leaders and tens of thousands of veterans.

Winds forced the cancellation of rehearsals of the fly-pat and parachute drop, but five landing ships, representing the five D-Day beaches, braved

choppy seas to land seven flag-bearers each.

Detachments from nine nations — the United States, Canada, Britain, Norway, Poland, France, Luxembourg, Belgium and the Netherlands — will take part in the combined arms ceremony.

In a re-run of D-Day itself, when the invasion was postponed for 24 hours because of bad weather, forecasters said the spring storms should abate by Sunday and the sun might even shine on Omaha Beach by Monday afternoon.

There were emotional ceremonies in Norman villages and towns as thousands of veterans, many hosted by grateful French families in their homes, returned to the scene of their battles on what the local press was dubbed "the longest weekend."

At one such ceremony, 40 veterans of the U.S. 1st Infantry Division, led by General Albert Smith, 75, who landed at Omaha Beach amid carnage early on June 6, 1944, prayed together at the cemetery at Colleville-sur-Mer, overlooking the coast.

Nearly 3,000 Americans died fighting for that strip of sand fringed by cliffs. In a eulogy, Gen. Smith recalled the unit's motto: "No mission too difficult, no sacrifice too great. Duty first."

5 Iraqis, Kuwaiti sentenced to death for Bush plot

KUWAIT (Agencies) — A Kuwait court on Saturday sentenced five Iraqis and one Kuwaiti to death for plotting to blow up former U.S. President George Bush when he visited the emirate to be lauded for leading the Gulf war coalition.

One Kuwaiti was acquitted and five Iraqis and two Kuwaitis were sentenced to various prison terms for offences ranging from possession of explosives to illegal entry.

The haggard-looking defendants, all but one with shaven heads and most wearing long beards, sat in two rows in a large cage in the crowded state security courtroom. Some broke into shouting and even fighting after the sentences were read.

A 33-year-old Iraqi who received the death penalty, Raad Abdul Amir About Al Asadi, dressed like most other defendants in a blue-gray prison uniform, shouted: "What did we do? No one is dead. No one is injured, what did we do?"

"A death sentence? Let the Kuwaiti state security be happy now. Is that Kuwaiti law?" During the last session on April 2, defence lawyers said the testimony of the sole prosecution witness, state security Colonel Abdul Samad Al Shatti, was based on assumptions.

Two of the 14 admitted varying levels of involvement in the alleged plot to blow up Mr. Bush, who celebrated the multinational coalition that ousted Iraqi occupation troops from Kuwait in the 1991 Gulf war, when he visited the emirate in April 1993.

The other 12 denied any involvement. Most of the Iraqi defendants said they came to Kuwait to see friends and family, seek loans or collect debts or help smuggle or sell alcohol.

At the end of the year-long trial in the no-jury security court, only Kuwaiti Nasser Al Meil, 43, was acquitted. He walked from the courtroom

after hugging his lawyer. Both were in tears.

Pandemonium erupted when Jabber Al Kanaani, a 56-year-old Iraqi defendant, punched Mr. Asadi, the plot's alleged ringleader, in the face.

Mr. Kanaani, like most of the Iraqis on trial, said he had paid Mr. Al Asadi to smuggle him to Kuwait to see the family he left after the emirate was liberated.

His 21-year old son, Ahmad, got 10 years for possessing explosives and weapons, and another two years for having liquor.

Ahmad, who has lived in Kuwait all his life, said he did not know that a bag Mr. Asadi gave him for safekeeping contained revolvers and explosives.

Death sentences in Kuwait automatically go to an appeal court for review. If upheld, they have to be approved by the emir, Sheikh Jaber Al

Ahmad Al Sabah.

Capital punishment in Kuwait is by hanging, usually in prison.

Thirteen of the defendants pleaded innocent. Only a 36-year-old Iraqi nurse, Wali Al Gazali, pleaded guilty.

He told the three-judge panel that Iraqi agents gave him a car packed with 80 kilograms of explosives and ordered him to blow it up at Kuwait University, where it was believed Mr. Bush was to be honoured during his April 14-16 visit.

Mr. Gazali initially said he was provided with a belt of explosives to use in a suicide attack if the car-bomb plan did not work. He later retracted that.

Bader Jiyad Al Shimmiri, 30, the only Kuwaiti sentenced to death, let the men park their cars in his sheep pen. He claimed he thought they were alcohol smugglers.

COLUMN

'Snake invasion terrifies village'

AMMAN (AP) — Hundreds of snakes have invaded a town in southern Jordan and a special task force killed more than 350 in 30 minutes, Sawt Al Shaab daily reported Saturday. It quoted Rabea Al Oran, a biology professor from Mutah University in Maan who heads the task force of civil defence and Agriculture Ministry personnel, as saying more snakes are on the way. The snakes, which are not poisonous, appeared in the Dallagah area 215 kilometres south of Amman last week. Dr. Oran's task force used water hoses and chemicals to kill the snakes, which were between 30 centimetres and 50 centimetres long. "The villagers are terrified since they refused to believe that the snakes are not poisonous," he said. It was the second such incident in the oasis town in two years. The last time, more than 1,500 snakes were killed. Dr. Oran said.

Empress Michiko feared she'd never speak again

TOKYO (R) — Japan's Empress Michiko, who was unable to speak for several months after collapsing last October, said Friday she almost lost hope at one point of ever talking again. "To lose speech was a completely unforeseeable thing," Empress Michiko told a news conference in a small but firm voice. "All I could do at that time was to accept reality." The empress collapsed on Oct. 20, her 59th birthday. Although first signs pointed to a minor stroke, palace officials said later that tests showed no brain damage. "They speculated her loss of speech could have been caused by deep depression over critical articles about her in the popular press. During her ordeal, Empress Michiko said she was heartened by Emperor Akihito and daughter Princess Nori." "But day after day, the sorrow from having lost words became larger and at one time I almost lost hope." She thanked those who encouraged her at the time. She said: "I was able to regain some patience, where I could think about the meaning of the pain and look inside myself. I apologise for having made everybody worried and I give heartfelt thanks to all the people who encouraged me."

Don Johnson enters Betty Ford Clinic

LOS ANGELES (R) — Actor Don Johnson, who starred as detective Sonny Crockett in the long-running hit television series Miami Vice, entered the Betty Ford Centre Friday for unspecified treatment, his publicist said. Elliot Mintz said Johnson checked in to the drug and alcohol dependency treatment centre Friday morning and would remain there for four weeks. Johnson's wife, actress Melanie Griffith, filed for divorce in March citing irreconcilable differences and sought primary custody of the couple's four-year-old daughter, Dakota. The couple have wed twice, and the second marriage was in its fifth year when Ms. Griffith made her divorce filing. Johnson starred in a number of ill-fated B movies, such as Revenge Of The Stuffed Wives, A Boy And His Dog, and Return To Macao County, before landing the Miami Vice lead role, which brought him fame and fortune as the free-wheeling Crockett. Since the series ended he has starred with Griffith in two movies — Paradise and the remake of Born Yesterday — and some action films.

Streisand's possessions to be auctioned

COMMERCE, Calif. (R) — Hundreds of personal possessions owned by superstar Barbra Streisand, including household goods, furniture and collectibles, will be sold at auction. A.N. Abell Auction Co. said Friday. The June 12 auction will also feature the library of the late actor Vincent Price, including his collection of art books, biographies and general interest works. Included in the collection of Ms. Streisand's possessions to be auctioned are items from the three Malibu homes the entertainer donated to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy. The auction of more than 100 items was authorised by Ms. Streisand.